



CASE STUDY

## Twenty-four Miles of 1-25: Albuquerque, NM

### Problem:

This 30-year old, 24-mile section of interstate was called one of the worst sections in New Mexico by one District Engineer. The concrete pavement looked good on the surface, but the sub-surface had destabilized and voids develop underneath the roadway. Constant traffic flow ensured that unsupported slabs rocked and made the problem increasingly worse.

### Factors for Consideration:

NMSHTD put off the repair on this stretch of highway for some time due to financial limitations. They considered their only option to be to completely remove and replace the entire 24 mile section of highway. A job this size would have cost \$25 million and taken nine months to complete, with major traffic disruption. The URETEK Method® offered New Mexico a way to improve the rideability and extend the life of their highway, without the \$25 million price tag.

### Method/Process Applied:

The URETEK Method® uses a two-part polymer called URETEK 486. Injection holes are laid out in a systematic pattern to maximize the polymer's lifting capabilities. Once injected under the slab, URETEK 486 expands upward, lifting pavement surfaces back to grade. Within fifteen minutes, the material reaches 90% of its strength.

### Result:

Over a three month period, 24 miles of pavement were completely void-filled and under sealed. Rideability improved over night. With multiple crews working at night, disruption was negligible. Albuquerque citizens did not even realize work was being done, just that the road had improved.

### Benefit:

The main benefits to New Mexico were in cost and time savings. The total project cost for the URETEK Method® was \$6.5 million, a savings of \$13 million. Total project time was three months, as opposed to the nine for rip and replace. NMSHTD anticipates the road will last another 20 years, almost doubling design life.

Inexpensive, Fast, Quiet, Effective,  
Pavement Lifting and Soil Stabilization. CONTROL



60% Time Savings  
75% Cost Savings  
Lifespan Extended 20+year