

Sealer Additive Types and Use

Generally speaking, the use of additives is recommended with most types of pavement sealer. Additives designed for use with refined tar emulsion pavement sealer such as Brewer Cote® can also be used with Eclipse® or any other petroleum resin pavement sealer. Additives for use with asphalt emulsion pavement sealers are usually designed for them specifically. Latex additives increase film flexibility, reduce marking and scuffing and increase resistance to sand roll out, especially while the film is in the early stages of curing. Additives for refined tar and petroleum resin sealers come in three basic types: general purpose, viscosity building and rapid drying. These types as well as some specific products are discussed below:

General Purpose Additives

These products aid in adhesion, reduce scuffing and marking, increase film toughness and flexibility and reduce sand roll out. While they thicken mix designs somewhat, they do not build viscosity in the same way as those designed for that purpose. they help freshly applied material reduce scuffing but do not speed drying. The Brewer Company produces our highest performing general purpose additive, Enhanced Latex Additive (ELA): As the name suggests, ELA is a latex additive. It increases viscosity of sealer only slightly and helps keep sand in suspension. ELA makes freshly applied sealer less susceptible to scuffing and power steering marks. ELA also increases flexibility and provides stronger aggregate bonding in the cured film improving long term wear characteristics.

Viscosity Building Additive

Tarmax: Also a latex additive for refined tar sealer, Tarmax increases viscosity of sealer considerably for improved sand suspension. Helps prevent sand roll out in the cured film and makes freshly applied sealer less susceptible to scuffing and power steering marks. Originally designed for Federal Airport Specifications, Tarmax meets FAA P-625, P-627 and P-628 for latex admixtures.

Rapid Drying Additives

Rapid Dry, Fast Sealing Additive (FSA) and Insta Dry (ISA): Used at a higher rate, typically, than other latex admixtures, these products help freshly applied sealer to be even more resistant to scuffing and tire marking, even in adverse curing conditions such as low temperature (but still above 50° F.). They decrease drying time, especially in cooler temperatures. They increase viscosity very little compared to other additives.

Diamond Shield and Fass-Dry additives are specially designed, cementitious products. They are designed for use in adverse curing conditions such as night sealing or sealing in overcast conditions. They contain no latex and can be used with refined tar, petroleum resin and asphalt emulsion sealers. According to the manufacturers, newly sealed lots can be opened to traffic in as little as 2 hours or as soon as the sealer is dry.