

Description:

Gap is a hot-applied polymer modified asphalt binder combined with specially engineered aggregates and modifiers designed to fill wide cracks and potholes to prevent water infiltration and restore ride quality. It is formulated with a low viscosity for ease of installation and enhanced crack penetration. This material is extremely flexible, which enables it to perform exceptionally well in cold weather, yet also has a high softening point so it will not track or rut with traffic.

Applicable Uses:

Maxwell Products Gap materials are designed specifically for the repair of wide thermal cracks, pot holes, rutting and depressed broken-up areas in asphalt and concrete pavement surfaces; also for use around solid structures in flexible pavement like manholes, gutters, and drains. When applied properly as per the instructions below, Gap creates a load bearing, weather resistant, durable bond; sealing distressed areas and resulting in a long-term maintenance solution to otherwise unmanageable pavement problems.

Melting:

The material shall be melted using a manufactured applicator specifically designed for the melting, heating, and application of modified polymerized asphalt sealants with aggregate. Melter agitator must be capable of keeping aggregate evenly suspended in heated material. Place Gap material in the applicator, and melt by heating the transfer oils to temperatures of 450°F - 525°F. Overnight heating elements available on some applicators may expedite material heat-up. Begin agitation when material has melted sufficiently for the agitator to turn, and continue heating until material temperatures meet the recommended application temperatures. Continue agitation as material is applied. To increase efficiency add fresh material continuously at the rate material is dispensed.

CAUTION: do not add material while agitation is in progress. Stop agitator before adding material.

Pavement Temperatures:

At the time of placing the sealant, the pavement temperature should be a minimum of 40°F. Application at lower temperatures may result in less adhesion due to the possible presence of excess moisture. If the surface temperature is less than 40°F, and the sealant must be applied, a heat lance or other appropriate means can be used to warm and dry the asphalt. Use of a heat lance on Portland concrete surfaces is not recommended. In all cases, care should be taken to insure the cracks are clean and dry so that the necessary adhesion is obtained.

Procedures:

Cracks and distressed areas should be opened to a minimum width of 1 inch and a minimum depth of 1 inch, which is necessary to provide an adequate reservoir for the sealant, allowing for expansion and contraction of the surface and crack. Although not required, milling or routing to a depth of 1 inch with a breadth of 4 inches to 10 inches across cracks may improve bonding, enhance ride smoothness, and create a clean finished appearance. A variety of equipment including routers, random crack saws, milling equipment, and power brushes can be used to open up and clean cracks. Care should be taken to insure that bonding surfaces are free of oil, dirt, dust, moisture, and any other contaminants that would inhibit good bonding of the sealant to the asphalt. To maximize adhesion, spray the repair area with a thin coating of Gap primer using a solvent resistant weed sprayer. (Gap material should be applied at least 6 inches beyond the repair area.) All weeds should be removed and cracks sterilized, if necessary, to prevent weed growth through the sealant.

In areas that do not have a build-up of oil, dirt, or other residue, preparation may be accomplished by using high-powered, oil-free compressed air or a heat lance. When using a heat lance, care should be taken that the asphalt is not overheated, causing excessive separation of the asphalt and aggregate.

Gap materials should be applied to distressed areas spanning voids of no more than 12 inches in width or diameter and 4 inches in depth. Skin patches and alligator repairs should not be applied in the event that deterioration is so great that reconstruction is the more cost effective solution.

The above specifications should be viewed as a guideline and may be modified according to unique project specifications.



SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

The following safety precautions should be taken to prevent injury when working with Gap.

1. Always wear gloves with wristlets and proper clothing that will cover arms and legs.
2. Wear safety glasses or goggles to protect the eyes.
3. Only use tools approved for applying Gap.
4. Take care when loading the melter. Turn off the agitation and only introduce blocks into the melter in a manner that will prevent splashing of the sealant onto the operator.
5. Take care to avoid breathing the sealant fumes.
6. Use proper traffic control procedures to provide adequate safety from moving vehicle traffic when applying Gap on roads and highways, or other areas exposed to vehicle or aircraft traffic.
7. Use measures meeting or exceeding local regulatory requirements to prevent pedestrian or other traffic from gaining access to the work area while sealant is still in the uncured or molten state.

HANDLING OF MATERIALS

Care should be taken when placing blocks of sealant into the melter to make sure hot melted sealant from inside the melter does not splash on the operator.

CAUTION: do not add material while agitation is in progress. Stop agitator before adding material.

POT LIFE OF SEALANT

Gap has been developed using the latest technology allowing an extended pot life at application temperature. When the sealant is being drawn out of the melter during the application process, care should be taken to maintain the pouring temperature especially when adding new sealant to the melter. The sealant may be reheated after initial heat-up if new blocks of sealant are added during the heat-up process.

If sealant has been overheated or exceeded the pot life it may get stringy and begin to gel. At this point the material should be removed from the melter and discarded.

EQUIPMENT CLEAN UP

Follow the melter manufacturer's guidelines for properly cleaning your equipment after each use of the machine, making sure all flames are extinguished before starting the clean up procedure. The sealant can be cleaned from equipment with petroleum-based or citrus-based solvents. Caution should be taken that the solvent does not contaminate the sealant. Solvents must be disposed of in accordance with federal, state, and local laws and guidelines.

STORAGE OF SEALANT

Gap sealants are shipped in waterproof PolySkin™ containers allowing for worry free storage. Pallets should be kept wrapped until used and should not be left in the sun for long periods of time. If pallets are to be stored for a period of time greater than six months, it is recommended that they be covered with a tarp to prevent damage to packaging from UV Exposure.

For more information please contact Maxwell Products.

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GAP MASTIC

Application Instructions

