Gee ASPHALT SYSTEMS, INC.

Finishing: GSB-88® penetrates down and becomes part of the surface, sealing and binding aggregates tightly together.

Lasting Technique

Proper crack sealing will preserve the dollars invested in asphalt pavement!

KEYS TO QUALITY CRACK SEALING

The Problem: Once pavement has hardened – allowing moisture to enter the base and support structure of your pavement – the rate of deterioration and damage and cost to repair will accelerate significantly unless you act quickly.

Choosing quality sealant materials and installing them correctly is critical to the long-term performance of any crack seal and is best handled by experts with knowledge, skill and the right equipment to do the job right. You can risk hiring cheaper contractors but if they are not specifically trained in crack sealing, you will have to repeat the process again sooner, wasting your valuable time and money.

Expertise and Quality Materials are Key to Lasting Performance:

Crack sealant must bond well to crack walls, be elastic enough to stretch without tearing apart in cold temperatures, and not track when temps go up to 100 degrees or more. Crafco, W.R. Meadows, and Maxwell hot applied crack sealants meet ASTM 3405 standards and our high performance expectations.

The Right Equipment – Melter Applicator

We utilize state-of-the-art double jacketed melters designed to safely melt sealant, gently agitate, and then pump it through insulated hoses and specially designed applicators into cracks. We also equip our machines with self contained compressors to blow out oil free compressed air to better prepare cracks for sealant.

Sealant is placed into the routed, dried and prepared crack, filling up from the bottom, until flush with the surface to eliminate voids and most surface damage. For maximum effectiveness, double the life of your whole pavement by finishing your crack sealing project with GSB-88® (Gilsonite Sealer Binder) preservation treatment!

WHY SHOULD YOU CHOOSE A HOT APPLIED ASTM 3405 RUBBERIZED SEALANT?

- **High Resiliency, up to 300%**
- **Great Cold Weather Performance**
- **Excellent Adhesion & Bonding Performance**
- **Quick Application Process**

PREPARATION FOR QUALITY SEALANT APPLICATION

- **Routing**
- **Cleaning (with oil-free compressed air)**
- **Heat Lancing (drying out)**

Step 1: Routing - Creating A Reservoir

Routing is a process of mechanically widening narrow cracks to obtain a specified 1.5 to 1 width and depth ratio to create a uniform sealant reservoir which meets the sealant manufacturer's specifications. This places sealant below the surface and allows for expansion and contraction during thermal changes and minimizes damage from traffic and snow plowing. Cracks previously sealed cannot be routed because old sealant binds to cutter bits and damage to equipment and operator injury might occur. In these cases cracks are blown free of foreign materials and otherwise sealed in a normal fashion. Although routing is an optional component of our crack sealing process, sealant performance is greatly enhanced – 50% or more – by this simple and effective procedure.

Step 2: Cleaning

After the crack has been routed to proper width and depth, cracks and the immediate work area are cleaned thoroughly. Newly routed cracks are blown clean of all dirt and debris using oil-free compressed air. Oil-free compressed air is critical to insure that sealant bonding to surfaces is not hindered or prevented from residues caused during this step. In addition, areas may be power broomed and blown free of dirt and debris in the final step before sealant application.

Step 3: Heat Lancing – Drying Out Wet Cracks

Prolonged periods of wet or cold conditions prevent cracks from drying out naturally. When this occurs and a shortened time line for project completion must be adhered to, heat lancing may be the best option. Heat Lancing combines oil-free compressed air blended with propane gas to create a 3,500 degree super-heated blast to simultaneously dry moisture from the crack and blow out dirt and debris.

Crack Sealing: 3 Common Application Techniques

Blow & Go

(not recommended):

Quick and cheap but least effective. Debris/dirt is blown and cracks filled leaving most of the sealant on top – vulnerable to being pulled out and scraped off – leaving your pavement further exposed to damage from the elements, traffic and plows, and pedestrians during everyday use. In addition, the sealant that does make it down into the crack has gritty, rough, unprepared surfaces which do not promote optimum bonding surfaces. Sealant will need fixed a lot sooner than you think!

Failed Crack Seal = BIG Safety Hazard

Rout & Flush Pour

(We recommend):

Quality sealant is carefully placed into the routed, dried and prepared crack, filling up from the bottom, until flush with the surface. Voids and bubbles that can shorten the life of the crack seal are eliminated while also preventing most surface damage. This technique also yields and longest "like new" look and attractive appearance.

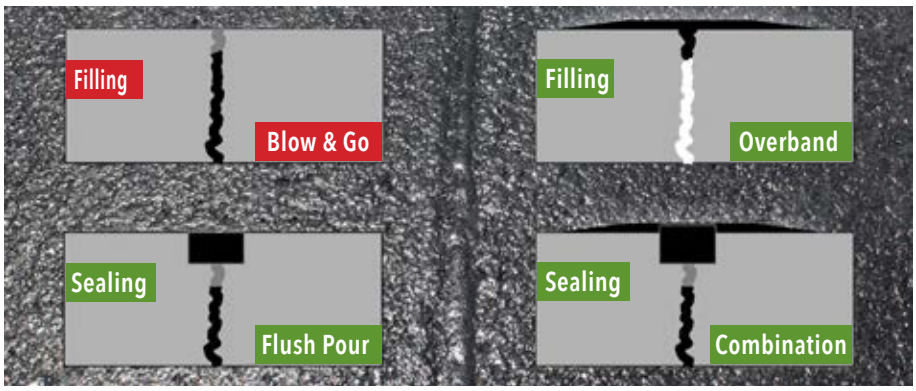
Rout & Overband

(We recommend for failed repairs):

Effective for crack sealing previously sealed cracks that cannot be routed. Sealant is carefully placed into the dried and prepared crack, filling up from the bottom, and squeegeeing the sealant flush with the surface. This minimizes most damage from traffic, plows, and pedestrians but is less attractive than the Rout & Flush Pour Technique.

Backer Rod *(optional pre-step, We recommend if needed):*

Overly deep cracks may require backer rod or suitable backfilling materials like sand. Backing materials are chosen based on how well each method will perform (stay in place during the curing process), according to the circumstances, and cost.



Crack sealing can be performed as a stand-alone process or completed prior to application of quality surface preservation treatments. When properly installed, hot applied crack sealants will last for years to come, protecting your pavement investment. Crack sealing is just one of several integral components in an overall preservation strategy.

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Making Good Pavements Last Longer

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