



PRODUCTFOCUS

ASPHALT ANCHORS:

The Solution to Fastening Concrete Pillars in a High-Traffic Area

by Dori Teich, President, Designated Parking Corp.

Home to the most trusted brands in the industry, Douglas Dynamics is North America's premier manufacturer of vehicle attachments and equipment. For more than 65 years, Douglas Dynamics has manufactured the highest quality and most reliable snow and ice control products on the market sold under the FISHER®, WESTERN®, HENDERSON® and SNOWEX® brands. The company is publicly traded on the NYSE under the symbol PLOW.

THE PROBLEM

Last year, Douglas Dynamics had installed a 30-foot power security gate and control box on one of their properties in Wisconsin. The control box is in a high traffic area, part of a large parking area. The area receives a fair amount of snow and ice in the winter. There was cause for concern that vehicles would accidentally bump into the control box and damage it.

It was decided to protect the box using 5" concrete-filled bollards. Traditional methods of fastening the bollards by digging up the asphalt, pouring concrete, and then attaching the bollards to the concrete were not possible because of underground electrical wiring in the area. Using common expanding anchors, which are very effective on concrete, is not viable on asphalt, as they loosen up within hours.

What was needed was an innovative solution—easy to install, durable, and causing minimal ground disturbance. For a company that prides itself in robust, sturdy equipment, the integrity of its own facility needed to follow suit.

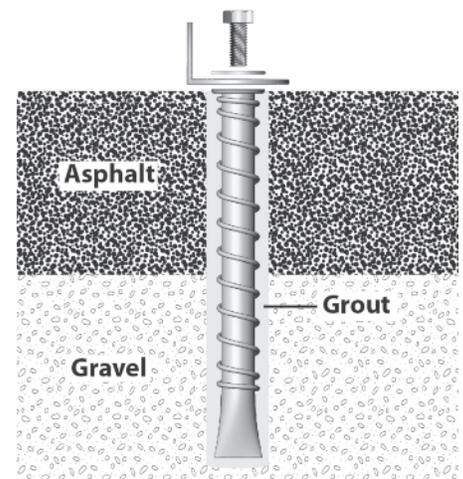
THE ANSWER

When faced with this problem, Mike Studee, a facilities and maintenance supervisor at Douglas Dynamics, decided that it required a new approach.

"After some research on the Internet, I settled on Asphalt Anchors as the solution to installing posts around the box," Studee said.

Studee selected the SP12 model from Asphalt Anchors Group (AAG). This anchor is 12" long with a 3/8" internal thread and comes with a 1" washer and 1" bolt. Installation was quick—drilling 7/8" diameter holes in the asphalt, filling the holes with a special grout provided by AAG, then pushing the anchors all the way until flush with the asphalt. Fifteen minutes later, the bollards could be attached.

BoltHold anchors are designed-for-purpose, making them perfect for securing to asphalt. Their unusual length provided greater grip and resistance to both sideways (shear) and pull forces. A large head keeps the anchors from dropping below the surface, as well as making sure that the tightening action of the bolts (attaching the bollard to the anchor) will not pull the anchor out of the ground. The fast-curing grout is inexpensive, as compared with epoxies, and once cured, it is water resistant. The grout bonds the anchor to the asphalt in a stress-free manner.



THE RESULTS

It's been almost a year now, and Studee reports that, just like Douglas Dynamics equipment, the poles have held up strongly and successfully.

"There has been no cracking in the asphalt, and the wires around the control box remained undamaged since the installation of Asphalt Anchors," he said. "And most importantly, the control box is well protected from parking cars and reckless drivers."

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RUDOR TEICH



Rudor (Dori) Teich is president of Designated Parking Corp., which manufactures parking barriers and asphalt anchors. Teich holds a bachelor's and a master's degree in electrical engineering yet spends more of his design time on mechanical designs than electronic ones. His professional background includes management and design of hotel room management systems, garage door controls and burglar and fire alarms. He can be reached at 973.669.8214 or by email at dori.teich@asphaltanchors.com.



ABOUT DESIGNATED PARKING CORP.

Asphalt Anchors developed its first asphalt anchors when the parent company, Designated Parking Corp. (www.designatedparking.com) needed a method of mounting its car parking barriers to asphalt driveways and parking lots in 2004. AAG is a member of the Specialty Tools and Fasteners Distributors Association (STAFDA). Designated Parking Corp. and its principals have been designing and manufacturing award-winning, high-volume, manually and remotely operated barriers and security systems for the automotive, commercial, industrial and residential markets since 1972. With product development, engineering and corporate functions headquartered in West Orange, New Jersey, Designated Parking's products are built at an affiliated world-class ISO Certified manufacturer in Shenzhen, China, and sold worldwide. The company's full line can be seen online at www.designatedparking.com. ■

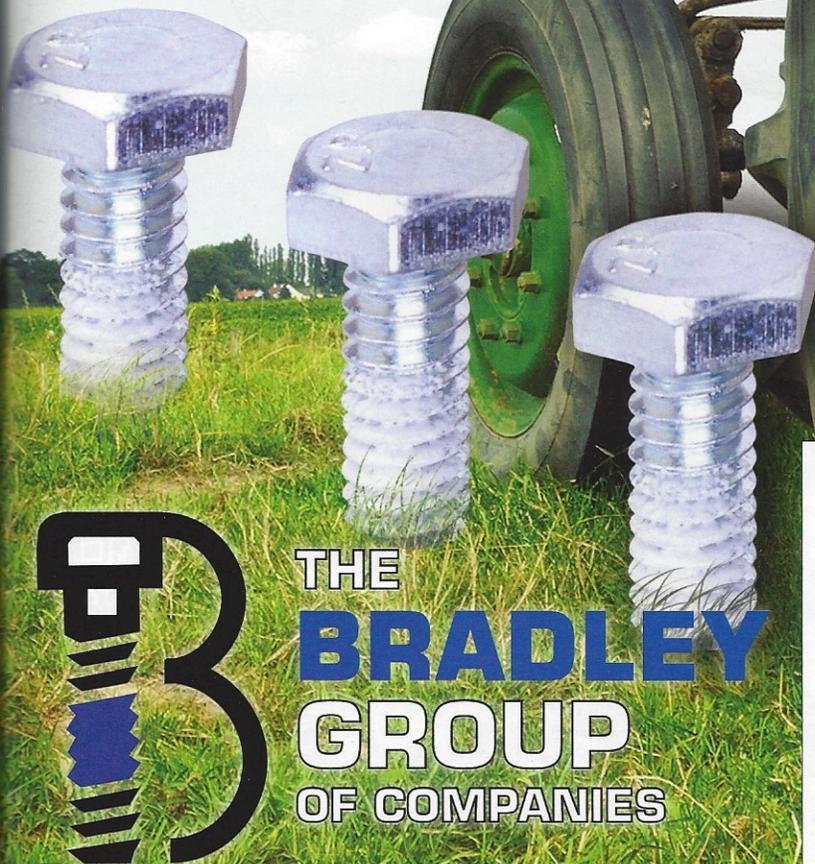
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