TECHNICAL BULLETIN

STRIVING FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE

Sealers & Polymeric Sand: Weather Can Affect the Outcome

What to watch for in weather conditions **TB 3**

Weather is an often overlooked factor that can affect the outcome of a sealing or polymeric sand install.

You can follow all other instructions to a tee but if the temperature is not within the desired range or rain shows up as you are sealing a surface or installing polymeric sand, the job could turn into a failure.

In order to achieve optimum performance, Trident sealers and PolySweep polymeric sand have specific guidelines regarding weather listed on the product packaging and technical data sheets. Those guidelines are meant to be followed and shouldn't be considered as negotiable in order to complete a job on time. When you take a chance on the weather, you are gambling with the outcome of the project, your reputation, any potential referrals and your profits.

Weather Considerations For Sealers Typically, Trident sealers should be applied when day and night temperatures are between 40°F and 95°F. They should never be applied on a frozen surface or when the surface temperature is above 120°F. When the surface is too cool or too hot the sealer will not absorb well. An infrared temperature meter is a useful tool to determine surface temperature and a relatively low investment starting at $25-30.

A surface wet with standing water from rain or cleaning should dry approximately 24 hours before applying a sealer depending on your project conditions. Once a sealer has been applied, a surface needs to remain dry for 24 hours post application. If the surface was wet to begin with or rain occurs too soon after application, the surface can become cloudy or blotchy. In the unfortunate circumstance of an unexpected pop-up rain shower, a large tarp can be placed on the surface to attempt to keep it dry. Remove it after the rain commences taking care to avoid getting water on the surface. Select Trident sealers can be applied to a damp surface or are rain safe in a much shorter period of time - be sure to read the instructions to learn more.

Weather Considerations For Polymeric Sand For PolySweep polymeric sand to set up properly, the temperature should be above 35 degrees for 24 hours before and 48 hours after installation. Plus, the surface needs to be dry at the time of installation and no rain forecasted for at least 12 hours afterwards. Like with sealer application, a tarp can be placed on the project if an unexpected pop–up rain shower occurs. Remove the tarp as soon as the rain is done so the air can assist in the curing process since PolySweep needs to dry fully to be cured. A hard rain on polymeric sand that has not set up properly could result in sand all over the tops of the pavers. If this happens remove the sand as soon as possible to avoid costly repairs.

Following weather guidelines when applying sealer and installing polymeric sand will help lead to a successful outcome of the project which leads to a happy customer, potential referrals and more revenue.