



TRIDENT[™]

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

STRIVING FOR SERVICE EXCELLENCE

The Art of the Flood Coat

How to properly apply a joint stabilizing sealer

TB 5

The key to joint stabilization success is knowing how much sealer is needed and how to properly apply it.

A joint stabilizing sealer can provide many benefits such as protection and enhancement, but its primary function is to stabilize (harden) the joint sand of a segmental pavement system. Most project owners want a solid sand joint to prevent sand washout, reduce weed growth and deter insect infestation. This will keep their surface looking beautiful over time as well as prevent potential safety hazards.

There are many factors that lead to successful joint stabilization when using a joint stabilizing sealer such as surface preparation, using the right joint sand, application method and how much sealer is needed. However, this bulletin will focus on the correct application method and how to know if you are using enough sealer to achieve joint stabilization success.

A flood coat application is the ideal way to apply a joint stabilizing sealer to a segmental pavement. When its done correctly, it will provide enough sealer to seal the surface and saturate the sand resulting in a protected surface and a solid joint of bonded sand particles. For this application, you will need an automated or pump up sprayer, a foam squeegee and slit foam roller.

Trident's recommended coverage guidelines for achieving joint stabilization with our joint stabilizing sealers is 80-120 sf per gallon. A range is provided because the type, age, condition and porosity of the surface material as well as joint size can affect actual coverage.

Using the coverage guidelines and working in a manageable 10' x 10' area, apply the sealer by holding the sprayer nozzle perpendicular to the surface and spray while overlapping each pass. You will want to see some pooling of the sealer in the joints but watch for indicators that your project may require more or less sealer. If the surface is quickly absorbing sealer you will need to cover less square feet per gallon than if there is excessive pooling of sealer on the surface where you will want to cover more square feet per gallon.

Before moving on to the rest of the project, use the squeegee to direct the sealer into the joints of the 10' x 10' area you just sprayed. Pull the squeegee across the surface at an angle rather than in the same direction of the joints. You can do a quick test to ensure the sealer has penetrated to at least 2/3 of the pavement depth. Use a screw driver or putty knife to remove some sand from the joint. If the sealer has not penetrated deep enough, replace the sand and spray more sealer (and squeegee). Continue with the rest of the project. On natural stone or a textured surface back roll with a slit foam roller to remove any excess sealer that has pooled on the surface.

After using the flood coat application technique on a few different projects, you will be on your way to learning the art of the flood coat.