

Worksite: _____ Instructor: _____ Date/Time: _____

Topic C308: Asphalt Sealcoating

Introduction: Sealcoating is often necessary to help preserve asphalt. Sealcoating, using mainly coal tar based emulsions has been around since the 1950s and the process and product have both been fairly well refined. The process of sealcoating exposes personnel to many hazards including: mechanical, traffic, and the coal tar product itself. Following are guidelines for safety in sealcoating:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): PPE requirements will vary with jobs.

- Eye protection: Splash hazards are always present when sealcoating, especially when spraying.
- Wear full length clothing and change clothes daily.
- Wear chemical or liquid repellent gloves and boots.
- Use a particulate mask to avoid inhalation hazards when spraying.
- During jobs near vehicle traffic, wear high visibility vests or jackets.
- Use protective creams specifically formulated for coal tar products, or a general protective cream used in conjunction with a minimum SPF 15 sun block. This simple safety practice will limit potential exposures, including sun exposure, reducing the possibility of chronic exposure contributing to skin cancer.

Wear full length clothing and launder contaminated clothing before wearing again.

General Safety Guidelines:

- Review all applicable MSDS/SDS
- Everybody needs to be trained in the use of sealcoating equipment, material handling, and traffic safety before beginning.
- Inspect all equipment prior to starting the job to ensure that all equipment safety guards are in place, equipment is working properly, and tools are in good working order.
- Ensure that all vehicles and trailers are inspected and deemed safe before taking them on the road (tires, brakes, lights, etc.).
- Check for loose tools or equipment that might fall off vehicles.
- Proper lockout/blockout procedures must be in place before performing any repairs, service, or maintenance to equipment.
- Do not fuel equipment with engines running or hot.
- Ensure that all necessary traffic barriers and controls are in place before starting work.
- Never place tools or body parts in kettles equipped with augers or mixing paddles when the engine is running.
- Wash off any sealcoat splashed on skin immediately. Residue from the sealcoat will heat quickly in the sun and may cause burns, or allergic reaction.
- When sealcoating wash hands before eating, drinking or smoking cigarettes.
- Launder contaminated clothing thoroughly before wearing again.
- Shower at the end of each work day.
- During spray applications work from "downwind to upwind" to avoid spray exposure.

Because of refined coal tar's distinct odor, there may be a natural concern about its hazards. However, air monitoring studies conducted during various methods of application indicate that emissions are negligible and well below exposure limits. Nevertheless, refined coal tar exhibits potentially harmful properties. Refined coal tar is a skin irritant and may cause extreme irritation. This can usually be controlled by using protective creams, good personal hygiene, and safe work practices. Common additives Acrylonite and Butadiene are toxic/hazardous chemicals in sufficient quantities and preparations. Ask your supplier for MSDS/SDS and technical support to assure the safe and proper use of refined coal tar pavement sealer.

Conclusion: The hazards of working with asphalt rollers are avoidable by using common sense, being an alert operator, providing proper training, and following the guidelines listed above.

Employee Attendance: (Names or signatures of personnel who are attending this meeting)

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These guidelines do not supersede local, state, or federal regulations and must not be construed as a substitute for, or legal interpretation of, any OSHA regulations.