



## Caution When Applying Paint to New Asphalt

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To Contractors and Property Managers and Owners:

Caution should be taken when applying painted pavement markings to new asphalt. Applying paints to new asphalt that has not had time to sufficiently cure will likely result in cracking of the asphalt surface and delamination of the paint.

There are many contributing factors that cause this effect. However the risks are much greater in high surface and ambient temperature ranges, thick paint applications, fine aggregate asphalt mix and lack of traffic and rain on the asphalt surface.

It is ours and industry recommendations that the above factors are considered when applying paints. There are a few methods or conditions to avoid or lessen the risk asphalt surface damage.

1. Allow asphalt to cure for a minimum of 30 days.
2. Apply painted pavement markings in two separate thinner applications over an extended period of time.
3. Do not apply painted pavement markings when surface temperatures are recurrently above 110 degrees F.
4. Do not apply painted pavement markings when there will be an extended period of time between application and regular traffic.

Understandably, some methods are not possible due to construction schedules. Nevertheless, any listed method or condition that is utilized will lessen the risk. Note that you may have your contractor test an area before striping. However, the test area and time may not be representative of the entire project, thus potentially providing false results.

If you have further questions regarding this issue, you are welcome to contact me personally or look on our website ([www.ppcatalog.com](http://www.ppcatalog.com)) for more details on the causes and effect of painted pavement markings on new asphalt.

Sincerely,

*Gregory W. Driskell*

Gregory W. Driskell  
President