

Uses for Sealants

Sealants for paving really established themselves in the Decorative Concrete market where they are an essential component of the finished work. From there, they moved into the Block Paving market, initially as stain preventers and, for concrete pavers, as a colour enhancer. Their role soon expanded as the benefits of joint stabilisation became apparent and research carried out at Luton Airport in the 1980s began to show the effect quality sealants, particularly SPPUs, could have on pavement lifespan.

As sealant technology advances, novel applications are being found, and their use is now spreading to new and rapidly growing markets

- **Concrete and clay pavings used as internal floors [eg conservatories or kitchens]**
- **Sealing of natural stone pavements**
- **Sealing and joint stabilisation of wide jointed paving**

Sealants are proving their worth in more and more areas of the paving industry. One of the world's leading sealant manufacturers, Resiblock Ltd, have developed sealants specifically designed to be used in different situations and on various paving materials. The legendary Resiblock 22 is a proven product on small element and block pavements, with over 2 million square metres of paving treated to date. Quality sealant that is suitable for use on natural stone or concrete pavings used in and around the home, Craig Amor of Resiblock writes...

"We have two products that are particularly suitable for this purpose, the first is Resiblock Ultra matt (low sheen finish) and the second is Resiblock Ultra (wet-look finish). Both of these products are based on aliphatic TDI technology and provide outstanding resistance to a wide range of household chemicals whilst remaining totally light stable (critical where part of the flooring is exposed to daylight and part is in shadow). Unlike the standard products, the Ultra products have a high degree of adhesion and do not rely solely on the porosity of the substrate for mechanical bonding, as a consequence they are both particularly suitable for both wet-cast and hydraulically pressed paving."

The Why and the What

Sealants are increasingly specified for larger paving contracts, notably at petrol stations, where they prevent fuel from penetrating the pavement, at airports, where they prevent erosion of jointing sand by jet blast, and at ports, where they prevent the ingress of water that can cause pavement failure. They are also specified for high-use areas where cleanliness and appearance is important, such as town centres, drive-through restaurants, and railway stations, where the regular use of sweeping machines can remove the jointing sand from unsealed pavements.

This growth in demand for sealants has had a twofold effect on the marketplace. While some manufacturers have undertaken intensive and original research to develop the best sealant compounds for specific applications, other, mass-market products have increased their market-share by claiming to be one of the all-purpose products mentioned above. Sadly, some users have found out too late that the sealant they picked up as a bargain at the DIY shed has irreversibly altered the appearance of their precious paving and there's nothing they can do to rectify the situation.



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PREMIUM DRIVE-WAY CLEANING SOLUTIONS

Introduction

Most Pattern Imprinted Concrete (PIC) paving, and more and more block or brick pavements are treated with a transparent sealant that is guaranteed to protect the paving from stains, inhibit weed growth, and, in the case of block paving, stabilise the jointing sand.



Sealing, Stabilising, Protecting Paving

PLEASE CONTACT US FOR A FREE QUOTATION

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