

## IDENTIFYING COMMON CRACK SEALANT CHALLENGES

**Sealant picks up when opened to traffic** - Often times the use of a blotting agent can be a simple fix. A blotting agent may include Glenzoil 20 Plus, toilet paper, sand, cement, Black Beauty, or lime.

Cause	Solution
Opened to traffic too soon after application	Delay opening to traffic , use a blotting agent such as Glenzoil 20 Plus
Cracks were not clean and / or dry	Use compressed air or heat lance
High ambient temperature	Delay application until temperature is lower
Excessive sealant applied	Apply flush to surface. Use a Squeegee.
Sealant choice too soft for climate	Use a stiffer sealant
Overheated sealant	Work to remove as much of the damaged sealant as possible then reapply fresh material.
Sealant is contaminated with solvent or heat transfer oil	

Tracking of crack sealant may be the most frequent failure experienced by driveway and parking lot contractors. Every year, we are called with a jobsite concern of crack sealant that is “still gooey” or tracking into homes and businesses. I have found the majority of the time the problem is one of two things.

Either the contractor has over heated the material and compromised the polymers.

Or the crack sealant has been applied liberally to the pavement surface. Do not “paint the surface black” with crack sealant. A 1/2 inch crack on a driveway / parking lot does not call for 6-8 inches wide of crack sealant. Hot pour crack sealant is not an effective tool for alligator cracking. Crack sealant is only effective when it is in the crack not when it is on the pavement.

**In this photo, the contractor has covered a large section of pavement with hot pour crack sealant to solve alligator cracking.**

