



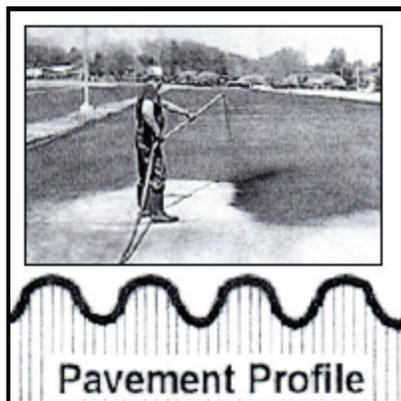
SPRAY vs BROOM

WHAT IS THE BEST WAY TO APPLY SEALER? IS IT SPRAY OR BROOM APPLIED?

The pavement sealcoating industry originally started with a squeegee application being the only approach to applying pavement sealer. In the early days, contractors who sprayed sealer were viewed by the mainstream with suspicion. Typically, spraying sealer involved cutting back asphalt with water and spraying down a thin coat with a make-shift water spray pump. Since then great strides have been made in the engineering and sophisticated spray system capable of spraying water based pavement sealers. The advent of the new spray equipment brought about industry wide acceptance of applying sealer by spray. Today millions of gallons of pavement sealer are applied by spray as well as broom applied, with quality results for both methods of applications.

To fully understand the difference between spray and broom applied application we need to take a closer look at what happens when sealer comes in contact with the pavement after each application method.

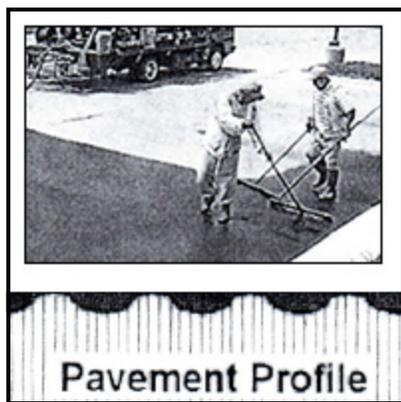
Figure 1



ONE COAT SPRAYING

Figure 1 shows an illustration of a pavement profile side view of what sealer looks like on pavement when it is sprayed. As the illustration shows, when sealer is sprayed it forms an even thickness over the tops of the pavement surface aggregate and into and along the bottom of the pores of the pavement. Consequently, spraying allows for more control of the coverage rate regardless of the porosity of the pavement. Since car tires only come into contact with the tops of the rocks, many feel that **TWO COAT** spray application provided adequate protection in these pores of the pavement compared to one coat broom applied, with additional build up on top of the rocks for long term color retention.

Figure 2



ONE COAT BROOM APPLIED

Figure 2 shows an illustration of a pavement profile side view of what sealer looks like on pavement when it is broom applied. As the illustration shows, when sealer is broom applied the pores are completely filled with a layer deposited on top of the rocks. Broom application helps better lock in the surface fines and waterproof the pores of the asphalt pavement. Typically **50% more sealer** is applied per square yard when broom applied versus spraying. Also there is a lot more of a mechanical force that breaks the surface tension of the aggregate during application. The mechanical force of the broom helps to create a better bond of the sealer to the aggregate, typically there is more sealer on the pavement surfaces versus spray application.



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