Flex-A-Fill®

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FLEX-A-FILL PROFESSIONAL GRADE

INSTALLATION INSTRUCTIONS, FEB 2018

READ BEFORE USING THIS PRODUCT

GENERAL: FLEX-A-FILL PROFESSSIONAL GRADE sealant is a hot-applied, single component polymer modified asphalt product supplied in solid block form that is used to fill cracks in asphalt concrete or portland cement concrete pavements. To use, product is removed from the package, heated in a melter and then applied. Details on product specifications and usage are contained in the Product Data Sheet.

MELTING AND APPLICATION: FLEX-A-FILL PROFESSIONAL GRADE can be melted and heated in jacketed double boiler type melting units or in small (50 gallon (190L) maximum) direct bottom fired types of melters. Double boiler type melters should meet requirements of appendix X1.1 of ASTM D6690. **Both types of melters must have effective agitation and temperature indicating devices to assure that the product is heated to and maintained within the specified application temperature range.** Heat transfer oil in double boiler type melters should not exceed 525°F (274°C) during melting. **During melting in direct bottom fired melters, the product must be agitated and the temperature carefully monitored to assure that it is not overheated.** FLEX-A-FILL PROFESSIONAL GRADE should be heated to between 350 and 400°F(177-204°C) for application. If overheated to temperatures above 400°F (204°C), product may degrade, typically by softening. Melters must be capable of safely heating product to 400°F (204°C). FLEX-A-FILL PROFESSIONAL GRADE can be applied using either pressure feed hose and wand pumping systems or gravity feed pour pots. **CAUTION:** Do not agitate when adding product due to splashing that may occur.

APPLICATION LIFE: Application life when heated is approximately 12 to 15 hours in double boiler melters. This may be extended by adding fresh blocks as quantity in the melter decreases. Product should be agitated while being applied. Product may be reheated to application temperature once, after initial heat up. When application life has been exceeded, product will begin to thicken, become "stringy" and may then gel. If this occurs, product should immediately be removed from the melter and discarded. In direct fired melters, product should be applied quickly after melting (within 3 hours) and all heated product should be used when melted. If allowed to solidify in a direct fired melter, reheating may result in degradation of properties.

PAVEMENT TEMPERATURES: Apply product when pavement temperature exceeds 40°F (4°C). Lower temperatures may result in reduced adhesion due to presence of moisture or ice. If pavement temperature is lower than 40°F (4°C), it may be warmed using a heat lance that puts no direct flame on the pavement. If installing at lower pavement temperatures than 40°F (4°C), extreme care should be used to insure that cracks are dry and free from ice and other contaminants. During cold weather application, product temperature should be maintained at the maximum heating temperature. Applied product should be checked by qualified personnel to assure that adhesion is adequate.

TRAFFIC CONTROLS: Place traffic controls in accordance with Part 6, Temporary Traffic Controls of the FHWA Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) to protect the work site for the duration of the work.

CRACK CLEANING: For appropriate adhesion, cracks must be clean and dry immediately prior to installation. Cracks may be widened using a router or saw to create a widened reservoir. Cleaning can be accomplished using high pressure, oil free, dry compressed air or vacuums. Both sides of the crack should be cleaned. Surfaces should be inspected to assure adequate cleanliness and dryness. Maximum crack width for application of sealant is 1 ½" (38mm)

SEALANT INSTALLATION: After cleaning, sealant that is at application temperature is applied to fill the crack. Sealant can be applied with up to a 3/8" (10 mm) underfill, flush fill, or with an overband cap that does not exceed 1/16" (1.5 mm) above the pavement surface, or greater than a 2" (50 mm) width beyond crack edges. These configurations can be achieved using appropriate wand tips, shoes or squeegees. To reduce surface tack, a light application of sand cement, or a detckifying application may be used.

STORAGE: Pallets of product are protected with a weather resistant covering. During outside storage, this covering must be intact to prevent boxes from getting wet. If wet, boxes may lose strength and crush. Rips in the pallet covering should be repaired to maintain packaging integrity. Pallets should be stored on a dry, level surface with good drainage. Pallets should not be stacked because crushing of bottom boxes may occur. Product properties are not affected by packaging deterioration.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS: Since this product is heated to elevated temperatures, it is essential that operations be conducted safely. All personnel need to be aware of hazards of using hot applied materials and safety precautions. Before use, the crew should read and understand product use and safety information on the box and the product SDS. User should check D.O.T. requirements for transportation of product at elevated temperatures above 212°F (100°C).

HAZARDS ASSOCIATED WITH HOT APPLIED MATERIALS: Skin contact with hot materials can cause burns. Over exposure to fumes may cause respiratory tract irritation, nausea, or headaches. Precautions are to be taken to prevent contact with hot material and to avoid inhalation of fumes for everyone in the vicinity.
Safety precautions should include:

1. Protective clothing to prevent skin contact with hot material.
2. Care when adding product to melters to reduce splashing.
3. Careful operation of wands or pour pots used to apply product.
4. Traffic and pedestrian control measures which meet or exceed local requirements to prevent access to work areas while product is in a molten state.
5. Avoidance of material fumes.
6. Proper application configurations with a minimum amount of material excess.
7. Appropriate clean up of excessive applications or product spills.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Additional information on FLEX-A-FILL PROFESSSIONAL GRADE is contained on the Product Data Sheet and Safety Data Sheet (SDS), which are available at www.flexafill.com.