

LOW TEMPERATURE CURE ADDITIVE-Q & A

Q. What is LTCA.

A. LTCA (Low Temperature Cure Additive) is a specialty additive, which is designed for most sealcoatings to fully cure under cooler temperatures (below 50° F), as encountered in early spring and late fall.

Q. Why do I have to use it?

A. To overcome the temperature limitation of min. 50° F for sealer application. Without the use of LTCA, sealcoatings will not properly cure, thus resulting in premature wear and failure.

Q. Why cannot I sealcoat without it.

A. Again, Without the use of LTCA, sealcoatings will not properly cure. They will prematurely wear and fail. When sealer is applied at cooler temperatures, binder particles, being thermoplastic, become too stiff to sufficiently fuse and knit for the formation of a good, impervious film. Sealer film formed under such conditions are likely to have micro voids (holes), thus prone to be attacked by water and chemicals. Thermoplastic materials become soft at higher temperatures but hard and stiff (like glass) at cooler temperatures.

Q. Another fast-drying additive? what is different? How does it work?

A. LTCA is NOT a fast-drying additive. Contrarily, it keeps the sealer film sufficiently open for allowing the binder particles to soften and fuse, for forming a continuous, dense film.

Q. Does it improve the color, toughness overall performance, and how?

A. Yes, definitely. STAR LTCA improves the overall color, performance, and durability of sealcoatings. Again, the specialty chemicals in LTCA promote optimal film formation, thus full sealcoating properties.

Q. What is the cost benefit?

A. It will be simply being able to take on sealcoating job or walking away due to cooler temperature limitations.

Q. Why would someone pay for the added cost of LTCA?

A. LTCA will,

- a. Keep your sealcoating and pavement maintenance busy for longer duration, thus defraying your overhead costs.
- b. Allow you to capture additional business, which sometime having to be done “under- the-gun”.

Q. Expand the sealcoating season, by how much?

A. LTCA will extend your sealcoating season in early spring and late fall, roughly by 6-8 weeks.

It is recommended for sealcoating in early spring, late fall where the ambient conditions of temperature, humidity and dew point are generally unfavorable for sealcoating application.

Q. How long has it been on the market?

A. It was introduced in the fall of 2022. The product was under development for a while but the introduction commenced per marketing plans.

Q. Performance testimonials?

A. Yes, many after extensive field trails at several STAR plant locations.

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