
Special Specification 3006

Underseal Course



1. DESCRIPTION

Construct an underseal course where sealing of the underlying surface is needed using a Tracking-Resistant Asphalt Interlayer (TRAIL), a Spray Applied Underseal Membrane, or a single layer of Seal Coat, applied before the placement of a new hot-mix asphalt concrete pavement.

2. MATERIALS

Furnish the materials for one of the following three options:

- 2.1. **TRAIL.** Furnish asphalt material described as “seal” for typical use in the TRAIL Material Producer List.
- 2.2. **Underseal Membrane.** Furnish asphalt material meeting the requirements of Special Specification 3005, “Spray Applied Underseal Membrane.” Do not dilute emulsified asphalts at the terminal, in the field, or at any other location before use.
- 2.3. **Seal Coat.** Furnish asphalt and aggregate materials meeting the requirements of Item 316, “Seal Coat.” Use a polymer modified asphalt or emulsion and aggregate as shown on the plans. Do not dilute emulsified asphalts at the terminal, in the field, or at any other location before use.
- Furnish asphalt material for applying tack coat to all miscellaneous contact surfaces when approved by the Engineer:
- 2.4. **Miscellaneous Tack.** Furnish CSS-1H, SS-1H, EBL, or a PG binder with a minimum high-temperature grade of PG 58 for tack coat binder in accordance with Item 300, “Asphalts, Oils, and Emulsions.” Specialized tack coat materials on the MPL for Tracking Resistant Asphalt Interlayer (TRAIL) will be allowed or required when shown on the plans. Do not dilute emulsified asphalts at the terminal, in the field, or at any other location before use, unless required in conformance with the manufacturer’s recommendation for approved TRAIL products on the MPL.
- 2.5. **Sampling.** The Engineer will obtain at least one sample of the tack coat binder per project per source in accordance with [Tex-500-C](#), Part III, and test it to verify compliance with Item 300. The Engineer will notify the Contractor when the sampling will occur and will witness the collection of the sample from the asphalt distributor immediately before use. Label the can with the corresponding lot and subplot numbers, producer, producer facility location, grade, district, date sampled, all applicable bills of lading (if available), and project information, including highway and control-section-job (CSJ) number. For emulsions, the Engineer may test as often as necessary to ensure the residual of the emulsion is greater than or equal to the specification requirement in Item 300.

3. EQUIPMENT

- 3.1. **TRAIL.** Provide the equipment recommend by the producer.
- 3.2. **Underseal Membrane.** Provide in accordance with Special Specification 3005, “Spray Applied Underseal Membrane.”
- 3.3. **Seal Coat.** Provide in accordance with Item 316.

4. CONSTRUCTION

- 4.1. **Preparation.** Clean the surface before placing the underseal course. Apply underseal course uniformly at the approved rate, unless otherwise directed. The Engineer will set the rate between 0.12 – 0.35 gal. of residual asphalt per square yard of surface area. The Engineer may adjust the application rate, taking into consideration the existing pavement surface conditions. Prevent splattering of the underseal course when placed adjacent to curb, gutter, and structures,

Apply a thin, uniform tack coat to all miscellaneous contact surfaces of curbs, structures, and joints. Prevent splattering of the tack coat when placed adjacent to curb, gutter, and structures.

- 4.2. **TRAIL.** Perform the following construction methods when applying a TRAIL for an underseal course:

- 4.2.1. **Test Strips.** When required by the Engineer, perform a test strip of TRAIL at a location on or near the project as directed. Allow the strip to cure for a maximum of 30 min. Drive over the test strip with equipment used during laid-down construction to simulate the effect of paving equipment. There should be no evidence of tracking or picking up of the TRAIL material on the wheels of the equipment.

- 4.2.2. **Placement.** Uniformly apply the TRAIL material to all areas where mix will be placed, including joints, at the rate shown on the plans or as directed, within 15°F of the approved temperature, and not above the maximum allowable temperature. Unless otherwise directed, uniformly apply the TRAIL material at the minimum rate specified on the plans. The Engineer may adjust the application rate taking into consideration the existing pavement surface conditions. The Engineer will set the application rate between 0.12 – 0.22 gal. per square yard for hot-applied TRAIL.

- 4.3. **Underseal Membrane.** Place in accordance with Special Specification 3005, "Spray Applied Underseal Membrane."

- 4.3.1. **Placement.** Do not allow any loose mixture onto the prepared surface before application of the membrane. Unless otherwise directed, uniformly apply the membrane to all areas where mix will be placed, including joints, at the rate shown on the plans. Unless otherwise directed, uniformly apply the membrane at the minimum rate specified on the plans. The Engineer may adjust the application rate, taking into consideration the existing pavement surface conditions. The Engineer will set the application rate between 0.22 – 0.40 gal. per square yard for underseal membrane.

- 4.4. **Seal Coat.** Place in accordance with Item 316.

- 4.4.1. **Placement.** Unless otherwise directed, apply the asphalt material and aggregate at the minimum rate shown on the plans. The Engineer may adjust the application rate, taking into consideration the existing pavement surface conditions. The Engineer will set the application rate between 0.25 – 0.45 gal. per square yard for emulsion seal coat and the application rate between 0.20 – 0.35 gal. per square yard for hot-applied AC seal coat.

- 4.5. **Quality Control.** Stop application if it is not uniform due to streaking, ridging, pooling, or flowing off the roadway surface. Verify equipment condition, operating procedures, application temperature, and material properties. Determine and correct the cause of non-uniform application.

The Engineer may perform independent tests to confirm Contractor compliance and may require testing differences or failing results to be resolved before resuming production.

The Engineer may stop the application and require construction of test strips at the Contractor's expense if any of the following occurs:

- non-uniformity of application continues after corrective action;
- evidence of tracking or picking up of the TRAIL;

- in three consecutive shots, application rate differs by more than 0.02 gal. per square yard from the rate directed; or
- any shot differs by more than 0.04 gal. per square yard from the rate directed.

The Engineer will approve the test strip location. The Engineer may require additional test strips until surface treatment application meets specification requirements.

5. MEASUREMENT

5.1. Asphalt Material.

- 5.1.1. **Volume.** Asphalt material, including all components, will be measured at the applied temperature by strapping the tank before and after road application. The distributor calibrated strap stick will be used for measuring the asphalt level in the distributor asphalt tank. The certified tank chart will be used to determine the beginning gallons and the final gallons in the distributor tank. The quantity to be measured for payment will be the difference between the beginning gallons and the final gallons.

The Engineer may allow the use of a metering device to determine the asphalt volume used and application rate if the device is accurate to within 1.5% of the strapped volume.

- 5.2. **Aggregate.** The work performed, materials furnished, equipment, labor, tools will not be paid for directly but will be subsidiary.
- 5.3. **Quantity Adjustments.** Quantity based price adjustment factors are not applicable to compensate for over and under runs resulting from the method chosen.

6. PAYMENT

The work performed and materials furnished in accordance with this Item and measured as provided under "Measurement" will be paid for at the unit price bid for "Underseal Course." These prices are full compensation for surface preparation; furnishing, preparing, hauling, Miscellaneous Tack used for all miscellaneous contact surfaces, and placing materials; removing existing pavement markers and excess aggregate; rolling; cleaning up stockpiles; and equipment, labor, tools, and incidentals.