



What is FiberMat® Paving?



[Midland Asphalt Materials Inc.](http://www.midlandasphalt.com)

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FiberMat® is an innovative pavement preservation method to strengthen and maintain asphalt pavement. It's cost-effective and can be used in a wide variety of situations. FiberMat® is different from other pavement preservation techniques because of its unique inclusion of chopped strands of fiberglass. These strands of fiberglass add tensile strength to the pavement surface, creating a flexible membrane with waterproofing capabilities.

How Does it Work?

The application of FiberMat® is a highly technical process. Fiberglass strands are sandwiched in between two layers of polymer modified asphalt emulsion. This complex process is controlled by a central computer, ensuring a consistent distribution according to a predetermined length and weight per square yard. FiberMat® can be divided into two further categories: Type A and Type B.

Type A

In Type A FiberMat®, known as an enhanced chip seal, a final layer of aggregate is applied after the sandwiched layer of fiberglass. This gives the road an appearance analogous to a typical chip seal, but with all the added benefits of FiberMat®.

Type B

In Type B FiberMat®, known as Stress Absorbing Membrane Interlayer, or SAMI, an additional overlay surface is applied. This ensures a durable pavement, while providing the owner with their desired final road surface.



Benefits

FiberMat's® benefits are numerous. It enhances the existing surface, which reduces the need for repairs, while adding increased resistance to cracking. Its application is fast, and it is open to traffic within a matter of minutes. It bonds to both asphalt and concrete, without the need for milling. It's the perfect long term solution for pavement preservation, since strength and flexibility are increased.

The tensile strength of FiberMat® has been proven to absorb pavement movements. This layer will effectively flex instead of crack. Tests have concluded that FiberMat® enhances the tensile strength and fatigue performance by 30% and wheel-track cracking rate by 300%. Propagation of cracks is delayed 3-4 fold in laboratory testing versus control specimens and indicators of 10 or more times from field specimens.

History

FiberMat®, formerly known as Fibredec, has had a long and rich history within the [Colas Group](#). Originally developed in Scotland in 1989 by [Colas Ltd](#), Fibredec proved to be a success from the start. At that time, Fibredec was described as "a road-surfacing material composed of fiber-glass that prevents cracks from rising to the surface." From there, Midland Asphalt introduced FiberMat® to American roads, where it has grown in popularity ever since. And with good reason— FiberMat® is an innovative and useful product, and it may be the solution to your paving problems. For more information [visit Midland Asphalt's website](#).