Test Method T379

Cleanliness of Sawn Concrete Pavement Joints

MAY 2013
Note that Roads and Maritime Services is hereafter referred to as ‘RMS’. The most recent revisions to Test Method T379 (other than minor editorial changes) are indicated by a vertical line in the margin as shown here.
Test Method T379

Cleanliness of Sawn Concrete Pavement Joints

1. **Scope**
   This test method sets out the procedure to determine the cleanliness of sawn concrete pavement joints before the application of a joint sealant.

2. **Apparatus**
   (a) A foam painting brush with sponge head, typically of size 75 mm wide, 60 mm long, and 14 mm thick, with a handle made of wood, metal, or stiff plastic (See Figure 1).

   ![Figure 1. Views of the 75 mm wide sponge head type painting tool](image)

   (b) Black 100% cotton fabric of medium density.
   (c) Scissors
   (d) Fabric marker pen.
   (e) Stainless steel ruler: minimum 300 mm long with reading accuracy 1 mm.
   (f) Tape measure: minimum 5 m long.

3. **Procedure**
   (a) Cut the fabric into pieces that are a minimum 80 mm wide and 150 mm long.
   (b) Write a reference number on the side of the fabric that is to be in contact with the concrete to identify the sample. The fabric is only used for one test.
   (c) Two parallel horizontal lines 50 mm long and 75 mm apart for use as a reference (optional).
   (d) Place the fabric strip around the foam painting brush (see Figure 2).
   (e) Holding the fabric and handle of the foam painting brush perpendicular to the surface of the concrete pavement (see Figure 3), insert the foam painting brush to a depth of at least 25 mm in a single down, hold and wait for at least 3 seconds, and up motion.
   (f) Examine the side of the fabric that was in contact with the concrete and rate the contamination of the fabric according to the visual rating categories in Appendix A.
   (g) Measure the sawcut width using the steel ruler.
4. **Result**
   (a) Rate the degree of joint contamination according to one of the visual rating categories in Appendix A.
   (b) Photograph the contaminated fabric (optional).

5. **Reporting**
Include the following data and results in the report:
   (a) Sawcut width and sawcut method
   (b) Time, date, and weather condition during the test
   (c) Test location
   (d) Fabric reference number
   (e) Test result by visual rating category (None, Light, Moderate, or Heavy)
Appendix A: Joint Contamination Visual Rating Categories

**Grade 1 None** - No trace marks of dust or curing compound

**Grade 2 Light** - Light trace or mark of dust without free particles
May 2013

Test Method T379 – Cleanliness of Sawn Concrete Pavement Joints

Grade 3 Moderate - Dust with free particulars

Grade 4 Heavy - Heavy trace of dust with free particulars

RMS 13.290