



# INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

## Design Memo No. 25-10

April 16, 2025

TO: All Design Personnel and Consultants

FROM: /s/ Kumar Dave  
Kumar Dave  
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Highway Engineering Division

SUBJECT: Void Reducing Asphalt Membrane for Asphalt Paving

SUPERSEDES: Design Memo 23-02 Void Reducing Asphalt Membrane for Asphalt Paving

REVISES: *Indiana Design Manual*/Section 602-3.02

EFFECTIVE: Lettings on or after September 1, 2025

The Standards Committee approved changes to RSP 401-R-750, Void Reducing Asphalt Membrane for HMA; RSP 410-R-751, Void Reducing Asphalt Membrane for SMA; and RSP 400-R-680, QC/QA Sampling and Testing on 401 and 410 Pay Items, at the [February 2025](#) meeting. The revisions deleted requirements for using liquid asphalt sealant and added Void Reducing Asphalt Membrane (VRAM) requirements on all QC/QA HMA or SMA surface courses. VRAM has proven to be effective in delaying pavement deterioration along the longitudinal joint.

Liquid asphalt sealant was discontinued, as noted in DM 24-17.

### **VRAM**

VRAM will be used for surface 401 QC/QA HMA and 410 QC/QA SMA mixes for all ESAL categories as follows.

1. VRAM should be used on projects with more than 300 tons of 401 QC/QA HMA or 410 QC/QA SMA surface material used as a mainline pavement.
2. VRAM is not required where a longitudinal joint will be formed with a commercial drive, private drive, or mailbox approach.

## **Joint Adhesive**

Joint adhesive should be used on projects as follows.

1. A project with less than 300 tons of 401 QC/QA HMA or 410 QC/QA SMA surface material used as a mainline pavement should use joint adhesive.
2. A project that does not include any mainline pavement work should use joint adhesive regardless of the HMA quantity.
3. A project that includes VRAM should use joint adhesive for the intermediate HMA layer only.

## **Recurring Special Provisions**

- RSP 401-R-750, Void Reducing Asphalt Membrane for HMA and RSP 410-R-751, Void Reducing Asphalt Membrane for SMA will be sunset and revisions incorporated into the 2026 *Standard Specifications*.
- RSP 400-R-680, QC/QA Sampling and Testing on 401 and 410 Pay Items will appear on the May 2025 RSP menu. For bundled contracts, the designer should fill out the RSP to indicate each individual location on the contract that has an HMA surface quantity of less than 300 tons. Each location on the table will not require VRAM and should instead include joint adhesive.

## **Pay Items**

- **Obsolete**. Effective September 1, 2025, the following pay item will be made obsolete.

Pay Item	Description	Unit
401-10258	Joint Adhesive, Surface	LFT
401-10259	Joint Adhesive, Intermediate	LFT

- **New**. Effective September 1, 2025, the following pay item should be used as noted in this memo.

Pay Item	Description	Unit	Notes
401-11526	Joint Adhesive	LFT	The course type (surface or intermediate) has been eliminated. This pay item will be used for all courses of joint adhesive.

## **Contract Revisions**

Plans, quantity calculations, and estimates should be revised accordingly prior to the Final Tracings submittal.

### **Approved Pavement Designs**

Previously approved pavement designs should not be resubmitted. A copy of this memo should be appended to the Final Pavement Design file submitted with the Final Tracings package. For contracts whose Final Tracings have been submitted, please work with your project manager to ensure the Final Pavement Design file in ERMS is updated.

### **IDM Revisions**

The referenced section of IDM Chapter [602](#) has been revised to reflect these changes.

Questions regarding this design memo should be directed to the Office of Pavement Engineering, Nick Cosenza, at [ncosenza@indot.in.gov](mailto:ncosenza@indot.in.gov).