



SAMI SOLUTIONS

SAMI FricSeal



FricSeal Solution No. 2

FricSeal takes the punishment of roundabouts and steep bends and makes them safer in the wet

Councils throughout Sydney find SAMI FricSeal a quick, cost effective way to restore lasting skid resistance to their busiest roundabouts and bends.



Two examples of roadways under heavy traffic stress and requiring the highest degree of skid resistance provided by SAMI's FricSeal. On the left, one of the many steep hairpin bends on Old Bathurst Road in the Blue Mountains (left) and on the right, one of the busiest roundabouts in Bankstown - both pictured here after SAMI's FricSeal was laid.

The Blue Mountains City Council was faced with an urgent problem. It was receiving a lot of complaints from motorists about the state of three hairpin bends on the Old Bathurst Road - one the busiest roads in the district.

"These sharp bends are also very steep - 1 in 7 gradients, and over time with heavy traffic punishment and oil build-up, they had lost significant skid resistance", explained the Council's Infrastructure Assets Engineer Prayog Pradhan. "When it rained, the situation was particularly dangerous with many cars skidding out of control".

The Blue Mountains City Council explored all available options to address the problem. "We considered longitudinal saw cuts to groove the surface but that would have made the situation worse for cyclists", commented Mr Pradhan.

"Lateral or transverse saw cuts similar to those applied in concrete paving were also considered, but, whilst the initial cost of this method was low, the overall costs were significantly high -

"...skid resistant, durable and around two-and-a-half times cheaper".

in the disposal of the waste, the volume of water required, the long 3 week delay, not to mention the cost of traffic control. We also considered mill and resheet", said Mr Pradhan.

SAMI FricSeal the best option

"We decided that the best option was to apply SAMI's FricSeal.

We estimated that this method was around two-and-a-half times cheaper and would deliver the skid resistance and durability we required.

No complaints

Today, three months after SAMI completed the job and during a period of consistent rainfall and frosts, we have had no complaints from motorists and no reported incidents of skidding. FricSeal is open textured and water drains from it freely".

In conclusion Mr Pradhan commented; "SAMI's engineers were very responsive and the volume of information they supplied enabled us to make an informed decision. And because their price was so competitive, we are now considering applying SAMI's FricSeal at a range of other locations".

**FricSeal takes the punishment of roundabouts and steep bends
and makes them safer in the wet**



SAMI FricSeal provides a uniform, even textured, skid resistant finish for all classes of pavements. Quick and easy to apply, it results in a smoother ride, generating less tyre noise when compared to traditional surfacing materials. In wet weather, FricSeal's open texture (inset) provides superior surface drainage, reducing spray and headlight dazzle.

Superior performance, - especially in the wet

SAMI's FricSeal is ideal for traffic situations where skid resistance and durability are essential. In these situations dense grade asphalt is not suitable because of its slippery surface in the wet. Open grade asphalt would be prone to raveling due to the 'openness' of the mix design and a spray seal surface would strip under such abnormal tyre stresses.

Bankstown City Council chose SAMI FricSeal to address a skid problem on a roundabout at the intersection of Carlingford and Helen Streets. "Vehicles were constantly losing control and crashing into the guardrail around it", explained Council's Roads and Infrastructure Engineer, Rob O'Neil. "We chose SAMI FricSeal because it could be applied quickly with it minimal disruption to traffic and with no by-product to dispose

of. And so far, no skidding complaints!"

Many Sydney Councils using SAMI's FricSeal

Across the most dense and stressful traffic region in Australia, SAMI's FricSeal is performing well for many Councils in areas including South Sydney, Botany, Hornsby, Blacktown, Parramatta, Willoughby, Campbelltown, the Blue Mountains and in several trials currently being monitored by the RTA.

SAMI FricSeal provides a uniform, even textured, skid resistant finish for all classes of pavements. It's a smoother ride and generates less tyre noise when compared to traditional surfacing materials. In wet weather, FricSeal's open texture provides surface drainage, reducing spray and headlight dazzle.

Clear advantages for engineers

Suitable for rigid or flexible pavements, SAMI's FricSeal combines a high performance polymer modified bituminous binder with selected aggregates. Because only 20mm is required there is a significant cost saving in materials against applying a traditional 40-60mm layer. There is also a significant saving not having to dispose of grindings.

The mix design of FricSeal is similar to SMA (stone mastic asphalt) and provides very good rut resistance. The use of high performance polymer modified binder significantly increases fatigue performance.

FricSeal allows minimal disruption to traffic because it can be quickly applied and is ready for traffic as soon as rolling is completed.

Our special thanks to Mr Prayog Pradhan from Blue Mountains City Council and Mr Rob O'Neil from Bankstown City Council.



For further information on any of the products featured in this Case Study or any of SAMI's other specialist road maintenance products and services, please contact:

SAMI Pty Limited A.C.N. 001 089 416
12 Grand Avenue, Camellia, NSW 2142
Telephone (02) 9638 0110. Facsimile (02) 9638 4090.

