



TECHNICAL BULLETIN #8

Running Track Construction Typical Materials and Consumption Rates

The most commonly specified running track, “the workhorse of track and field,” is probably a black mat with a polyurethane structural spay system. Running tracks are typically installed by a paving machine with a heated screed and a spray rig that is fitted with a pneumatic delivery system that blends the polyurethane and rubber granules. The installation process should only be attempted by experienced workmen with the proper equipment.

The black mat can be laid using either SBR or EPDM (exact specification) and is generally proportioned at a rate of 20 lbs track binder to 100 lbs of rubber. A base mat of EPDM is stronger than an SBR mat and the budget may dictate the preferred material

When considering the strength of the track system, which can relate to the long term durability, some specifiers include a pore sealer that is applied by squeegee or trowel to the base mat. The pore sealer enhances the strength of the base mat, reduces water permeability and prevents the structural spray from penetrating the base mat. The sealed basemat will allow more structural spray to “stand up” at the wearing level of the track. The pore sealer is typically pigmented and mixed with the same color EPDM that is specified for the wearing (spray) course.

Normally, a track receives two coats of structural spray over the base mat. The structural spray is the actual wearing surface of the track and provides protection of the basemat and most importantly, Structural spray is a pigmented, UV resistant polyurethane mixed with 0.5-1.5mm EPDM granules. If the track is to receive high level of use, the specifier should also consider adding a third coat of structural spray to the inside two lanes of the track. Since these lanes receive the heaviest use, the extra structural spray will significantly protect the surface from premature wear and delay the future need to rehabilitate the other six or eight lanes. Other high wear areas for run-ups and vaults should also be considered for three applications of structural spray.

Typical material requirements for the BASIC Black Mat and Structural Spray System for a 10mm Track

BASE MAT

*SBR or EPDM granule 1-4mm	13.0# SY
*Binder FPL-478 or BTR-1110	3.2# SY

STRUCTURAL SPRAY COMPONENTS (Two coats)

*PU Pigmented Spray	2.16# SY
*Spray Rubber EPDM granule 0.5-1.5mm	1.44# SY

PRIMER COAT

*Binder FPL or BTR	0.14# SY
*Solvent	0.14# SY

PORE SEALER if required, add the following materials:

Pore Sealer is a two component (catalyzed) liquid that is mixed in the field. It has a limited pot life and working time that is related to the temperature.

Large Scale Applications: FPL-510-A/B 2.27# (A) to 1# (B) r
For small size areas: 2.02gal (A) to 1.0 gal (B)
For medium size areas 21.5 gal (A) to 10.6 gal (B)
Rubber Dust is normally applied at a rate of 1 pound / SY

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