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**\*\*\*\*THIS IS A NEW IM. – PLEASE READ CAREFULLY.\*\*\*\***

**INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE  
ANTI-GRAFFITI COATINGS**

**GENERAL**

Anti-graffiti coatings are used to prevent the adhesion of unwanted coatings or to facilitate the removal of applied graffiti. Anti-graffiti coatings shall meet the requirements of applicable Iowa Department of Transportation specifications. Surface preparation and application of anti-graffiti coating shall follow manufacturer's recommendations. An anti-graffiti coating shall only be applied on applicable surfaces.

**ACCEPTANCE**

Acceptance of anti-graffiti coatings for use on Iowa Department of Transportation projects will be on the basis of manufacturer and brand name approval.

To obtain approval for anti-graffiti coatings, the manufacturer shall submit the following items to the Office of Materials in Ames, Iowa:

- Product identification including brand name and product number.
- Complete manufacturer's recommendation for usage.
- A current Materials Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).
- Available test data and reports.
- A one-liter (one-quart) representative sample.

The Office of Materials will evaluate anti-graffiti coatings based on all available information, and if necessary, will test the materials by the method described in the following section.

If an anti-graffiti coating has been evaluated and approved by other state transportation agencies, manufacturers may submit the technical data and the evaluation reports from these state agencies for accelerated approval. The Office of Materials will review these data and reports and may approve the coating based on the other state results.

Ten year manufacturer performance warranty is required for all approved coatings. Approval of anti-graffiti coatings may be withdrawn because of deficient test results, product changes made after original approval, or unsatisfactory field performance.

When used in Iowa, brand name and producer name of approved coatings must be identifiable by marking on the container and by description on the invoice.

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## **TEST METHOD FOR EVALUATION**

The Office of Materials may evaluate an anti-graffiti coating by the following test method.

1. Coat a mortar/concrete block with the anti-graffiti coating. The test surface of the block shall be at least 3 x 7.5 in. Application may be by roller, brush, or spray. Application rate shall follow manufacturer's recommendation.
2. Cure the sample at ambient temperature (65 – 75 °F) for 24 hours.
3. Expose the coated sample to outdoor-weathering for 60 days.
4. Remove and deface the sample.
5. Allow the marking material to be cured for 72 hours at ambient temperature.
6. Clean the sample by using methyl ethyl ketone or other graffiti remove agents recommended by the same manufacturer.
7. Repeat Steps 4 to 6 for defacing sample with following marking materials: 1<sup>st</sup> test – acrylic spray paint, 2<sup>nd</sup> test – alkyd spray paint, 3<sup>rd</sup> test – epoxy spray paint, and 4<sup>th</sup> test – permanent marker.

The material will be approved only if

1. The sample must exhibit no signs of graffiti or graffiti staining upon casual inspection.
2. The coating must be intact and exhibit no signs of streaking, cracking, pinholing, discoloring, or other coating degradation upon casual examination.