



**FLEXIBLE,  
DURABLE  
RUBBER  
PARTICLES  
FOR  
NON-SKID  
SURFACES**

**soft<sup>®</sup>  
sand**

[www.SoftSandRubber.com](http://www.SoftSandRubber.com)

# PROBLEM

## Hard aggregates tend to pop out of soft, elastomeric coatings.

Hard aggregates such as silica sand, aluminum oxide, garnet, silicon carbide and others have been used to add non-skid properties to cure-in-place elastomeric membranes. Typically, the particles are encapsulated in the top coat of the membrane system. As the coating wears under vehicular or other traffic, the aggregate becomes exposed. Twisting from tires or other loads rips the hard particle from the topcoat, compromising the coating system. Some aggregates will also fracture, and loose aggregate can also become an abrasive agent that further shortens the life of the coating system.

# REASON

Aggregate pop out under load has been a problem for years. Knowing it was inevitable led to the practice of adding as much aggregate as possible – ‘the more you start with, the more you’ll end up with’ was the common mentality. The technique developed to implement this was to broadcast the aggregate to excess or rejection into a midcoat. Once this midcoat cured, excess aggregate was removed and then a topcoat applied to hopefully lock the aggregate in place.

# SOLUTION

Why not create an elastomeric particle for these elastomeric coatings? SoftSand rubber was specifically developed to overcome the problem of aggregate pop out. SoftSand rubber is a proprietary compound that was formulated to adhere to common cure in place resin systems such as urethanes, epoxies, acrylics, polyureas, polyaspartics etc. Since SoftSand rubber is elastomeric, it will not crush or fracture under vehicular or other loads.

SoftSand rubber was also formulated to withstand the harsh service environments that these coatings face. This includes exposure to hydrocarbons used in automobiles such as radiator fluid, brake fluid, gas, kerosene, grease and other lubricants. In addition to good adhesion and chemical resistance, SoftSand rubber particles are non-staining and are designed to have a superior combination of weatherability and abrasion resistance.

SoftSand rubber is not a scrap material. SoftSand rubber does not contain any free crystalline silica. Since SoftSand Rubber does not pop out like hard aggregates, it does not need to be broadcast to rejection as explained above. The sample shown above was prepared using only 3 lbs of SoftSand rubber Coarse Grade per 100 square feet. The table below compares broadcast rates for different sized jobs.

Job Area (square feet)	Silica Sand (lbs.)	SoftSand Rubber (lbs.)
100	100	3
1,000	1,000	30
5,000	5,000	150
10,000	10,000	300
50,000	50,000	1,500
100,000	100,000	3,000

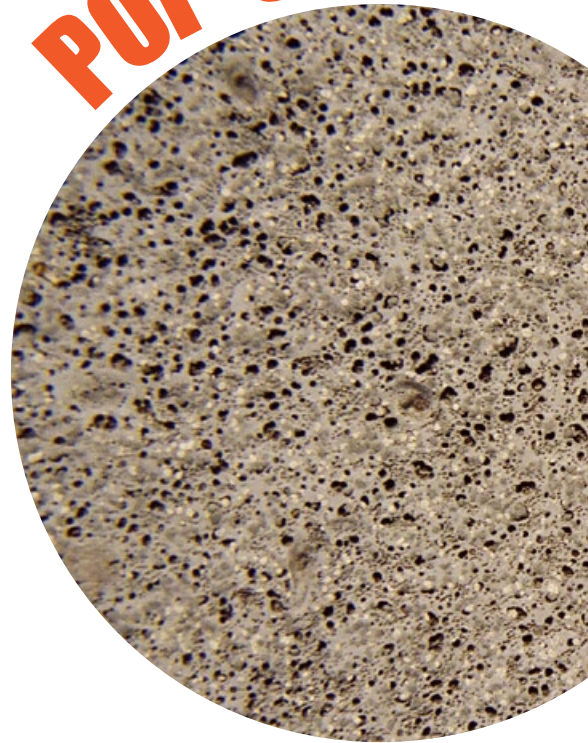
**COMPARE!**

## For More Information

To learn more about SoftSand rubber products, go to [www.softsandrubber.com](http://www.softsandrubber.com) or call 303-668-2645.

To learn more about WEARCOAT 66 and other fine coatings, go to [www.andek.com](http://www.andek.com) or call 800-800-2844.

# POP-OUTS!



**WEARCOAT 66™** + **soft sand**  
Traction Enhancing Coating

WEARCOAT 66 and SoftSand Rubber make a great combination!

Andek's WEARCOAT 66 is a popular cyclo-aliphatic urethane. It can be used as a clear coat or tinted to a variety of standard or custom colors. As this photo shows, the combination of WEARCOAT 66 and SoftSand rubber, make a great non-skid traction coating.

