




BP4: Specified Highway Remedial Measures

Reference: BP4 002	Title of Project:	Skid Resistant Safer Inspection Covers (Griptop)
Version: 1	Website:	http://www.griptop.co.uk/
Brief Description of Project:	<p>The dangers posed to motorcyclists by traditional metal access covers have been highlighted by the Federation of European Motorcyclists' Associations (FEMA), which has called for the use of covers with in-service skid resistance.</p> <p>Traditional iron and steel access covers are designed with raised metal studs to increase grip. FEMA highlighted in its campaign to improve conditions for PTW riders that when these become polished by passing traffic it results in poor skid resistance compared to the surrounding highway.</p> <p>As an example, the Griptop covers have been developed by manufacturer Saint Gobain Pipelines and waterproof coating specialist Stirling Lloyd. Instead of surface metal studs, these covers have a 2mm deep tray in which diamond bauxite is anchored in a special adhesive.</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  </div> <p>In performance testing, Griptop has a Skid Resistance Value (SRV) >63 after 130,000 passages at 40mph. There appears to be high resistance to polishing. In context, the UK Design Manual for Roads and Bridges recommends an SRV of 55 for 'high risk' situations.</p> <p>There are other manufacturers of similar products.</p>	
Monitoring Data:	<p>There is no casualty data monitoring of the product. Performance monitoring data is discussed above. The collision causation factor of loss of control due to road surface condition has been highlighted in casualty studies and by riders' groups. The Motorcycle Council of New South Wales' survey of motorcyclists estimated loss of traction due to road surface condition as a factor in 43% of single vehicle crashes.</p>	

Results:	The installation of skid resistant inspection covers at critical locations appears to offer the potential to reduce the risk of loss of control collisions.
Key Effective Conclusions:	Although not the single largest cause of PTW collisions in urban areas, loss of control on poor surface is highlighted in the MAIDS and DfT studies and is a frequent PTW hazard identified in Safety Audits.
Projects for Comparison:	
Justification:	The measure appears to address an identified collision causation factor. It would appear that the installation of skid resistant inspection covers would contribute to eSUM WP3, BP4 objectives.