
**VOLUME 8 TRAFFIC SIGNS AND
LIGHTING**

**SECTION 2 TRAFFIC SIGNS AND ROAD
MARKINGS**

INTERIM ADVICE NOTE IAN 56/04

**MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC SIGNS WITH
DEW RESISTANT COATINGS**

SUMMARY

This Interim Advice Note provides advice about maintenance procedures for traffic signs with surfaces incorporating factory applied dew resistant coatings.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

This IAN should be read in conjunction with TD25/01.

INTERIM ADVICE NOTE

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MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC SIGNS WITH DEW RESISTANT COATINGS

1. Background

The visual performance of traffic signs, and the life span of traffic sign assets are affected by the methods used to clean them.

Departmental Standard, TD 25/01 warns against the use of inappropriate cleaning methods by using abrasive materials and advises of the need to follow the cleaning recommendations issued by the suppliers of the sign face material.

Since publication of TD 25/01, two sign face material suppliers, 3M UK Plc and Rennicks (UK) Ltd have introduced sign face materials with dew resistant coatings. These materials can be damaged by inappropriate cleaning techniques.

This advice note supplements TD25/01 by providing guidance about cleaning methods for traffic signs with dew resistant coatings, and identifies locations on the trunk road network where traffic signs with dew resistant coatings have been installed.

2. Required Action

Contractors responsible for cleaning traffic signs should ensure that under no circumstances should detergents, abrasive sponges, high pressure water jet or brushes be used to clean signs with dew resistant coatings. When such signs require cleaning only clean water from a low pressure hose should be used.

Signs with dew resistant coatings are unlikely to require cleaning as frequently as other signs.

3. General Queries

For general queries on technical policy matters relating to this document please contact Sydney Xavier, Room 3C, Federated House, Dorking, Surrey RH4 1SZ , Telephone 01306 87 8281). Email:Sydney.Xavier@highways.gsi.gov.uk

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Director and
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Attached:

Annex A – LOCATIONS OF TRAFFIC SIGNS WITH DEW RESISTANT COATINGS

LOCATIONS OF TRAFFIC SIGNS WITH DEW RESISTANT COATINGS

There are two types of sign faces with dew resistant coatings; one supplied by 3M UK Plc, and the other by Rennicks (UK) Ltd.

At the date of this guidance, traffic signs with dew resistant coatings are located as follows:

The 3M product is on signs which can be found on

- M6 Gantry signs at junctions 17 – 19,
- M53 Gantry signs at junctions 1 – 7,
- A1M Airport sign near Junction 60,
- A1M two gantry signs and a bifurcating sign near Washington services.

These are identifiable by a red label at the back of the sign which reads

“3M Scotchlite™ Dew Resistant Sheeting
This sign has 3M Scotchlite Dew Resistant Sheeting applied to it
CLEAN ONLY WITH WATER, DO NOT USE
ANY TYPE OF DETERGENT OR SOLVENT
For further information, contact 3M on: 01344 866257”

The Rennicks product, has a trade name of Nikkalite Dewtect™, is on signs which can be found on

- M5 – ADS Signs (Junction 21 Southbound)
- A120 – ADS Signs (Stanstead Upgrade)
- A44 – ADS Signs (Oxford Ringroad)
- A59 – ADS Signs (Hagley Road, Birmingham)
- A275 – ADS Signs (Ashcombe Roundabout, Lewes)
- A629 – ADS Signs (Calderdale Way, Leeds)
- A56 – ADS Signs (Frodsham, Cheshire)

These are identifiable by a label at the back of the sign which reads

“Warning
Sign face coated with
Self Cleansing Dew resistant overlay.
& should not require cleaning.”

If cleaning necessary, use only gentle stream of clean water.
Do not use detergent, abrasive cleaners or rub dirt into signface causing scratches.

For further information contact;
Rennicks (UK) Ltd 01928 579966 ”

A map showing their approximate locations in the network is overleaf.

INTERIM ADVICE

Dew Resistant Sign Faces Map

Highways Agency Trunk Road

Motorway All purpose

3M UK Plc

Rennicks (UK) Ltd

[http://www.ha.gov.uk/signfaces](#)

Information as compiled at June 2004



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