



PennDOT Maintenance Business Model

Most permanent pothole patching is completed in the spring/summer when temperatures stay consistently above freezing. Weather permitting, crews patch potholes during the winter using cold patch material. The typical crew consist of around 8 crew members, dump trucks, a skid steer, a roller and a tack-coat applicator.

Cold patch is considered a temporary patching material for repairs. It is asphalt mixed with soap, water or other types of oils to remain flexible so crews can work with it. The material is simply placed into the pothole with a shovel, then leveled and compacted. Although designed to be a temporary repair, cold patch jobs can last two or more years.

Warm mix asphalt is considered a permanent patching material and is a mixture of pure asphalt and stone heated to several hundred degrees. The pothole is cut square, cleaned and then treated with a tack coat of asphalt that acts as a glue. After the tack coat application cures, the warm mix is placed into the pothole and compacted using a roller. If potholes were not repaired, the road surface would break up further and require more expensive corrective measures.

MANUAL PATCHING

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