



PennDOT Maintenance Business Model

Each year, PennDOT line painting crews apply more than 1.6 million gallons of yellow and white waterborne traffic line paint to highways to help guide motorists.

This amount of paint is enough to fill approximately 470 four-foot deep, 12-foot diameter, above ground swimming pools. PennDOT starts painting the traffic lines in late spring. By the time this operation is completed in October, PennDOT crews will have painted more than 114,000 miles of lines, enough to circle the globe nearly five times.

PennDOT paints primarily road and highway dividing lines, but also paints railroad crossing markings, arrow directional markings and legends such as STOP markings.

The weather must be warm and dry for painting because rain, high humidity or temperatures below 50 degrees Fahrenheit will increase the normal drying time of between 90 and 120 seconds.

The PennDOT line painting crews' equipment heats the paint to about 110 degrees Fahrenheit and then sprays the material on the road. Beads made of recycled glass are simultaneously applied to the wet paint. The pavement markings are visible at night to motorists because these glass beads are retroreflective.

PennDOT uses approximately 11 million pounds of glass beads for line painting each year.

LINE PAINTING

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Although Pennsylvanians see PennDOT crews on the roads year-round, they may not always realize the scope or importance of the work we do.

Common maintenance activities may not receive as much public attention as building new bridges or highways, but they are integral to the maintenance of the state's 40,000 roadway miles and 25,400 bridges. Core maintenance operations are planned on reoccurring cycles to effectively manage and preserve our assets.

Activities such as crack sealing, patching, surface treatment, shoulder cutting and side dozing; in addition to keeping our drainage systems functional through pipe replacement, flushing and ditch cleaning are key components of the maintenance business model. These ensure that we are effectively managing and preserving our assets, while also dedicating resources to system improvements.

Combined with other activities such as successful winter maintenance, line painting, vegetation management, signing, bridge maintenance and litter cleanup, PennDOT is making improvements, enhancing equity in our organization and transportation systems for all people, and –as always—aiming at a safer, more connected Pennsylvania.

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www.PennDOT.pa.gov.

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