

A newsletter for customers and friends of Plastic Safety Systems

The PSS *Edge*

Plastic Safety Systems, Inc. ♦ P.O. Box 20140 ♦ Cleveland, OH 44120
♦ 800-662-6338 ♦ 216-231-2702 fax ♦ www.plasticsafety.com ♦ "On the Roadway for Safety "

State Barricading & Plastic Safety Systems team up to improve ODOT barrier object marker

Last spring, Chuck Bailey of Plastic Safety Systems, Inc. (PSS) and Jeff Chase, Branch Manager for State Barricading Inc./URI, met to discuss the possibility of improving the quality of traffic control devices being used in Ohio.

Jeff, who is President of the Ohio Chapter of ATSSA, had heard concerns from chapter members regarding a need to improve the object marker that was being used in the state. That device is a 9" x 15" aluminum angle that is anchored to the top of a Jersey barricade.

This particular method requires drilling into the concrete barricade to secure the marker. When snowplows or truck mirrors impact these aluminum panels they bend over, reducing the reflectivity of the device and loosening the anchors, which then yields the possibility of the aluminum angle

becoming a hazardous projectile that could cause injury to a passing motorist or a worker. To companies like State Barricading, who take pride in the integrity of their work zones, the maintenance of these devices has presented a major concern.

Chuck met with Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) officials to determine the current specifications and collect their input regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the metal markers. ODOT officials confirmed that maintenance of the metal markers requires a full lane closure on interstate highways.

Two heads are better than one...

State Barricade and PSS employees put their heads together to propose a solution to the aluminum angle. The result was the Quik-Mark , a two-piece glued barrier object marker that can withstand impacts by rebounding back to its maximum reflective angle of 90 degrees. The gluing capability of Quik-Mark allows for quick installation with a "rolling closure," eliminating the need for a full lane closure and reducing worker exposure to traffic. A three-man crew with a "rolling work zone" is all that is required to place the mounting brackets and panels.



Chuck Bailey and Jeff Chase initiated a solution for ODOT.

Another advantage is that the panel can be removed quickly and reversed for traffic changes.

In addition, PSS manufactures a single piece device that has the rebounding and gluing features of the Quik-Mark .

Innovation put to the test

State Barricading provided one of their jobsites on I-71 in Strongsville, OH, to test and "fine tune" the devices. State Barricading and PSS were finally satisfied with the results and production began in January 2000.

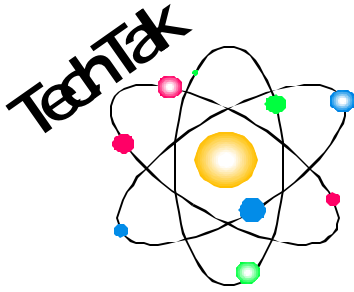
The ODOT engineer for the job was so impressed with the Quik-Mark product that he ordered all the units on the project to be replaced.

(continued on page 3)

Welcome to the *Edge*...

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*Editor: Shawn Scott
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Installation tips for work zone reflective films

by Greg Brown, PSS Quality Control Manager

Customers have inquired, “What steps are taken to install reflective films to flexible plastic work zone devices?” Usually, when we explain how Plastic Safety Systems, Inc. (PSS) properly installs reflective films, our valued customers generally say, “SOUNDS GREAT!...Sheet ‘em up and ship ‘em out!”

For years, PSS has worked closely with reflective film manufacturers and the polymer industry to develop proven and effective film application methods. Here are four film installation tips and some facts on plastic work zone devices PSS would like to share with you, our valued customer...

Number 1: **Working Environment**

Most adhesive-backed work zone reflective films adhere best to clean, dry, and warm plastic surfaces. For best results, we recommend staging all plastic work zone devices and the reflective films in a controlled working environment with minimum room temperatures of 65 degrees. Although most work zone reflective films are designed to perform in extreme weather conditions, poor environmental conditions during film application will decrease overall field life performance.

Number 2: **Surface Preparation**

Make sure the plastic work zone device is clean and free from surface contaminations prior to film application. For best film adhesion results, a flame-treated or solvent cleansing application should be used on all plastic devices within 24 hours or less prior to reflective film installation. Also—*very important*—know your materials.

Reflective films for plastic work zone devices are designed to adhere to specific materials. Make sure the reflective film you are using is recommended by the manufacturer for that specific plastic device. If there is any question as to what the device is made from, call the manufacturer and find out. This will eliminate adhesion problems due to a film-to-plastic mismatch.

Number 3: **Get out the squeegee!**

Although some reflective films can stick great to well-prepared surfaces, a quick press down with a hard edged

squeegee can really make the difference. Reflective film manufacturers agree, and test results conclude that pushing the adhesive down to a properly prepared plastic surface with a squeegee will increase overall adhesion values.

Number 4: **Set ‘em up and ship ‘em out!**

Make sure your newly applied reflective films have a chance to set up or cure on the plastic device surface prior to moving them into the work zone or cold environment. Allow a minimum of 24 hours of setup time in a clean, dry, and warm storage area for best results.

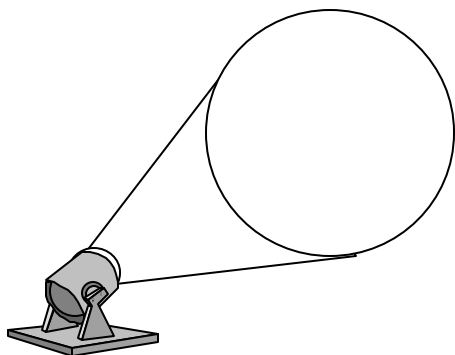
In conclusion, if the right materials are used and properly applied to your traffic control devices, you stand the best chance of achieving maximum field life performance.

This is just one of the ways PSS guarantees our valued customers that we stand behind our mission: To provide the best traffic control products in the world and maintain our customers for life!

Our Mission:

Provide the best temporary traffic control products in the world and maintain our customers for life.

On the Roadways for Safety™



Employee spotlight



Chuck Bailey

Chuck Bailey of Plastic Safety Systems, Inc. (PSS) has been promoted to Director of Product Development. Chuck is responsible for monitoring market and product trends within the industry and interfacing with government agencies to keep PSS abreast of new developments. Chuck is a veteran within the industry and has affiliations with the Ohio Contractors Association and the American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA). Chuck and his wife Karen reside in Brecksville, Ohio.



Michael Heltzel

Michael Heltzel has been promoted to Customer Service Manager at PSS. Mike is a graduate of John Carroll University and has been a Customer Service Representative since he joined PSS in 1994.

His new duties include working with production and shipping in an effort to expedite customer orders through shipment. Mike will also be working closely with corporate sales personnel.

Mike is active on ATSSA's Safety Committee. Mike and his wife Barb have a daughter, Caroline, and when he is not spending time with his family he enjoys playing a round of golf.



Henry deYoung

Henry deYoung is a new addition to the PSS team. He has been hired as Plant Supervisor and comes to PSS with many years of experience in Production, Total Quality Management, and Plant Operations.

Henry is active in supervisor training for the Employers Research Council. Henry will supervise production, delivery schedules, plant safety, and monitor overall plant operations. Henry has two sons—Joe, who is in the U.S. Army, and Phil, a senior in high school. During his free time, Henry enjoys skeet shooting at a sportsmen's club or golfing at a local course.

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State Barricading & PSS work for safety in Ohio

continued from page 1

The results of this "new" object marker have been submitted to ODOT's central office for review.

State Barricading has ordered 4,000 Quik-Mark units to date and expects to double that by the end of the year. "Collaboration between State Barricading and Plastic Safety Systems,

Inc. was the key to finding a safe and effective solution for Ohio," says David E. Cowan, PSS President and CEO.

For more information on Quik-Mark, call (800) 662-6338 or visit the PSS website at www.plasticsafety.com.

Check us out online at
www.plasticsafety.com



Nite-Lite meets IA spec



The State of Iowa has determined that reflective fencing is an added assurance that is now required (Section 2518 of the Iowa manual) for all road and hazard closures. Iowa DOT specifies a reflective fence with three one-inch bands of reflective tape, such as the PSS **Nite-Lite**.

The fence is placed across the roadway from the outside edge of the shoulder to the outside edge of the opposing shoulder. The reflective fence is supported by a type III barricade, displaying a "Road Closed" sign. **Nite-Lite** is securely attached to the backside of the type III preventing any sagging that may reduce its reflective properties. Motorists have a clear understanding of the intent of the device, as illustrated by the photo above.

Customer Profile

Centerline Supply of Grand Prairie, TX



The staff of Centerline Supply

President Foy Barrett founded Centerline Supply, headquartered in Grand Prairie, TX, in 1989. Over the years the company has grown to cover the states of Texas and Louisiana. Centerline Supply has even recently opened a branch in Phoenix, AZ!

Centerline Supply is well known for their superior service. The company is often referred to as a "One Stop Shop," because of the diverse array of traffic control and pavement marking equipment offered.



Order your board game today! The object is to get to the finish line first by using orange barrels to block the progress of your opponents. Contact Mike Heltzel (800-662-6338) or visit the PSS website to place your order or for more information. The cost is \$25, with \$5 of each sale contributed to the ATSSA Foundation. Only from PSS...

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