

Transportation Safety Division

# 3M™ Stamark™ Removable Black Line Mask 715

Product Bulletin Series 715  
April 2019

Replaces Product Bulletin Series 715 Dated January 2009

## 1 Description

3M Stamark Removable Black Line Mask 715 (“Mask”) is used to cover existing pavement markings for temporary traffic diversion during highway work zone construction. It can serve as a temporary mask for lane lines, edge lines, hash, and gore markings. Mask should be wide enough to cover existing markings with a single taped line. Mask is designed to perform for the duration of a normal construction season. A normal construction season is defined as the time after the last snow plowing in the spring and before the first snow plowing in the fall/winter. In locations where snow removal is not performed, Mask is intended for use for up to one year. Mask is a temporary removable product not intended for multi-year applications. Under most conditions, once Mask is no longer required, Mask can be manually removed largely intact or in large pieces, saving additional time, labor, and materials normally required to re-mark roadways.

**Note:** Mask installations that have been subjected to high traffic flows (ADT > 10 000), installed on marginal pavement surfaces, left on pavement for long periods (more than 6 months), or are being removed at low temperatures are more difficult to remove. Mask is most easily removed after shorter periods of use, at temperatures above 40 °F (4 °C), and from smooth pavement surfaces that have been subject to moderate traffic flows.

Mask can be easily applied without the use of heat, solvents, or additional adhesives. Newly masked areas can be open to traffic immediately following Mask application. Mask should only be installed according to the instructions presented in this product bulletin and the appropriate sections of [3M Information Folder 3.2](#).

## 2 Product Features and Advantages

- Durable, conformable, matte black top surface.
- Removable largely intact or in large pieces under most conditions.
- Made of high-quality polymeric materials and pigments with a top-coated layer of skid-resistant particles.
- Bottom surface coated with a pressure sensitive adhesive.
- Reinforced with a non-metallic medium to facilitate removal.

## 3 Specifications

### 3.1 Skid Resistance

Mask surface provides an initial average skid resistance value of 60 BPN when tested according to ASTM E303.

## 4 Application Conditions

For situations not specifically covered in this product bulletin, it is the responsibility of the installer to contact the appropriate 3M sales representative or 3M Application Engineer for guidance.

Guidance from your 3M sales representative or 3M Application Engineer is especially critical when installing Mask under the following conditions:

- 1 Before, during, or immediately following rainfall.
- 2 Periods of marginal weather conditions.

### 4.1 General Application Conditions:

- Air and pavement temperature minimum: 50 °F (10 °C) and rising.
- Pavement surface must be clean and dry.
- Do not use any surface preparation adhesive in conjunction with Mask.

## 5 Application Procedure for Asphalt and Concrete Surfaces

**Note:** Mask forms a very aggressive bond when applied over worn Stamark tapes and consequently may not remove easily from worn tape. When removing Mask, worn tape markings may be removed as well. The user should test Mask for conformance to their application requirements before applying it in any significant quantity.

### 5.1 General Application Procedure

Four-step process:

- 1 Determine what markings are to be covered.
- 2 Clean markings to be covered and road surface surrounding them.
- 3 Apply Mask.
- 4 Tamp Mask.

### 5.2 Detailed Application Procedure

#### Step 1

Determine what markings are to be covered and identify them with a chalk mark to ensure that only the correct markings are masked. Make sure existing markings are firmly adhered to the road; remove any loose markings or pieces of markings.

#### Step 2

Clean road and existing markings with high pressure air or thorough sweeping.

#### Step 3

Apply Mask using a 3M Highway Tape Applicator (HTA), or by hand. Mask should extend beyond each side of existing marking by approximately 1" (2.54 cm). Do not overlap Mask sections; use butt splices.

#### Step 4

Tamp Mask with a Roller Tamper Cart (RTC-2) with a minimum load of 200 lbs. (90.7 kg), or drive vehicle tire slowly (2-3 mph [3-5 km/hr]) over Mask twice. **The vehicle must be equipped with a pointing device to help driver keep tire aligned with Mask.**

- o When air temperature is below 70 °F (21 °C), make several additional passes with the tamper cart or vehicle tire to ensure Mask adheres well.

#### Tamping is Very Important.

When using the RTC-2 with 200 lbs. (90.7 kg.) of weight:

- o Make three passes, back and forth, on each line of Mask with the tamper cart.
- o Do not twist or turn tamping device on Mask.
- o Inspect all Mask edges for firm adhesion.
- o Cut Mask with knife where applied over cracks, joints, or seams in pavement.
- o Open road to traffic as soon as possible.

## 6 Removability

Under most conditions, Mask can be removed largely intact or in large pieces from asphalt and smooth Portland cement concrete surfaces at temperatures above 40 °F (4 °C) without the use of heat, solvents, grinding, or sandblasting. At temperatures below 40 °F (4 °C), Mask may be more difficult to remove in large pieces and leave faint but visible temporary traces on the pavement.

Use the following procedure to remove Mask:

- 1 Always wear gloves and eye protection when removing Mask.
- 2 Pry up the edge of the Mask using a chisel-like tool.
- 3 Pull Mask straight up (at an angle of approximately 90°, relative to the pavement).
- 4 At temperatures below 40 °F (4 °C), Mask may be brittle and difficult to remove in large pieces. In these situations, a small amount of heat may be used to help soften the adhesive.

**Note:** Neither burning nor grinding is recommended for Mask removal.

## 7 Durability

Mask has been designed to provide short-term covering of existing pavement markings. Mask's actual performance will be dependent on pavement and atmospheric conditions present at the time of application, application method used, traffic exposure, and environmental conditions. Users should verify that Mask conforms to their requirements before applying it any significant quantity.

3M makes no generalized effective performance claims or material replacement provisions. Abrasion or heavy wear may significantly reduce effective performance, however, 3M's experience has shown that properly installed Mask is a highly effective traffic control device.

## 8 Storage

Mask should be stored in a cool, dry area indoors and used within one year of receipt.

## 9 Health and Safety Information

Read all health hazard, precautionary, and first aid statements found in the Safety Data Sheets (SDS), Article Information Sheets, and products labels of any materials for important health, safety, and environmental information prior to handling or use. When removing Mask, obey all best practices described in the FWHA and State DOT safety guidelines. When using a pavement preparation adhesive with this product, refer to the appropriate MSDS for information about the volatile organic compound (VOC) content of the adhesive. Consult local regulations and authorities for possible restrictions on product VOC content and/or VOC emissions. To obtain SDSs and Article Information Sheets for 3M products, go to [3M.com/SDS](http://3M.com/SDS), contact 3M by mail, or for urgent requests call 1-800-364-3577.

## 10 Warranty Information

### 10.1 3M Basic Product Warranty

3M warrants that Mask will be free of defects in materials and manufacture at the time of shipment and meet the specifications stated in this product bulletin (“Basic Warranty”). If Mask is proven not to have met the Basic Warranty on its shipment date, then a buyer's exclusive remedy, and 3M's sole obligation, at 3M's option, will be refund or replacement of the Mask.

### 10.2 Disclaimer

THE 3M WARRANTY IS MADE IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES OR CONDITIONS, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OR CONDITION OF MERCHANTABILITY, OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, OR ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY ARISING OUT OF A COURSE OF DEALING OR OF PERFORMANCE, CUSTOM, OR USAGE OF TRADE.

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## 11 Other Product Information

Always confirm that you have the most current version of the applicable product bulletin, information folder, or other product information from 3M's Website at <http://www.3M.com/roadsafety>.

## 12 Literature References

- [3M IF 3.2](#) 3M™ Stamark™ Removable Tapes Pavement Surface Preparation and Application Procedures
- [3M IF 5.2](#) 3M™ Highway Tape Applicator (HTA)
- [3M IF 5.17](#) 3M™ Stamark™ Surface Preparation Adhesive P-50 Instructions for use with 3M™ Stamark™ Pavement Marking Tapes
- [3M IF 5.21](#) 3M™ Stamark™ Low VOC Surface Preparation Adhesive SPA60 Spray Application Instructions for Bulk Liquid for Longitudinal Pavement Marking Tapes
- [3M Road Surface Guide](#)

ASTM Test Methods are available from ASTM International, West Conshohocken, PA.

## For Information or Assistance

Call: 1-800-553-1380

In Canada Call:

1-800-3M HELPS (1-800-364-3577)

## Internet:

<http://www.3M.com/roadsafety>

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