



Tool and Equipment First-Round Winner
Innovations Challenge

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Prepared by Transportation Planning
Missouri Department of Transportation

Noodle Truck Tailgate Seal



Description

Even on new trucks, there is potential for fine aggregate and chip rock to fall through the cracks of tailgates during transportation. To prevent this from happening, one swim noodle was cut in half lengthwise to wedge between the tailgate and the fin. This greatly reduces the chance of broken windows to vehicles that are following a truck. This practice was implemented when chip sealing bridges in June 2016 and used while hauling chips for patching operations.

Benefit

In the past, costly latches and other items in the truck bed were used to prevent leaks. The swim noodle seal takes only \$5 to craft and just two minutes to install. Using it has simplified work, improved safety and reduced costs. By preventing aggregate falling from trucks, the department saves money on motorist's expensive claims for motorist's broken glass.

Materials and Labor

2 minutes of staff time with \$5 in materials.

For More Information Contact:

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Additional photos or videos can be seen by accessing the Innovations Challenge SharePoint page at: <http://sharepoint/systemdelivery/TP/Documents/InnovationsChallenge.aspx>.