Railroad tracks: Train your sights on safety!

A big problem for pedestrians and bicyclists is railroad tracks on sidewalks, bike paths, and streets. They’re a serious hazard because people can get “caught in the tracks;” especially when it’s wet, and this leads to accidents: falls, and in some cases, serious injuries. That can be prevented easily and inexpensively with Freudenberg Sealing Technologies’ new rubber extrusion for railway tracks.

In many industrial areas, railroad tracks are no longer used for transportation purposes. But often it is not feasible to remove them. This may be for reasons of cost, or because the tracks are essential for draining surface water or serving as lightning arresters. The solution, therefore, is to reliably fill the track grooves and create a smooth, flat surface while maintaining the surface water runoff channel.

For this purpose, Freudenberg Sealing Technologies has developed a special rubber extrusion with a built-in drainage channel. A comparison test along with field testing in the industrial park in Weinheim, Germany, demonstrated that this rubber extrusion is clearly superior to other approaches. The extrusion cannot be inadvertently dislodged from its secure seat in the track—not by traffic; cars, trucks, or street sweepers—no matter what the weather.

**VALUES FOR THE CUSTOMER**

- These extrusions increase traffic safety and prevent accidents that can result in serious bodily harm.
- The rubber extrusions reliably and economically eliminate railroad tracks as causes of “trip and fall” accidents, without the need for expensive track removal construction projects.
- The installation cost is low.
- The material, EPDM, is durable and wear-resistant. Maintenance and cleaning costs are low.
- All manner of vehicles can drive over these extrusions without damage. They sit tightly and securely in the track without shifting.
- Drainage channels allow surface water to run off.
- The extrusion sections can be joined with round cords and special adhesives so that the increased safety they provide can be achieved over extended distances.
FEATURES AND BENEFITS

- Track extrusions are suitable for short distances, pedestrian crossings, and long, curving runs.

- The flexible sections are reliably joined by means of round cords running through the interior and secured with a special adhesive.

- Drainage channels allow surface water to run off.

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