



PSI Tech-Note

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PINHOLING AND SMALL CAVITIES IN CONCRETE SURFACE THE SOURCE OF BLISTERS – HOW TO PREVENT IT.

When concrete is has pinholes and small cavities in the deck, primer must be applied heavily into the concrete to fill the cavities before applying the coating. In this case the primer must completely dry.



Fig #1 Pinholes in concrete



Fig #2 Surface cavities in concrete



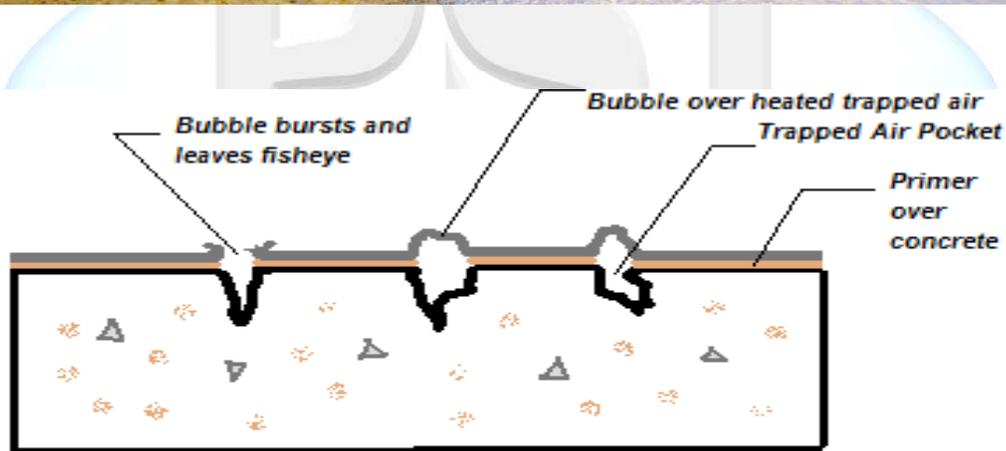
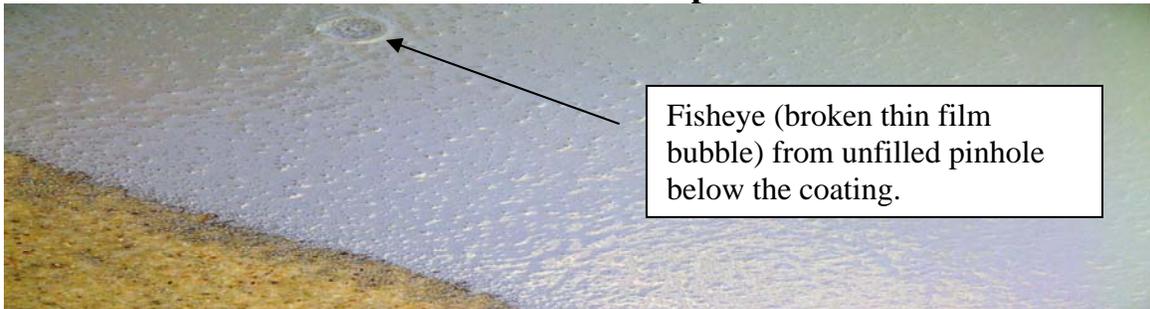
Fig # 3 Pinhole free concrete



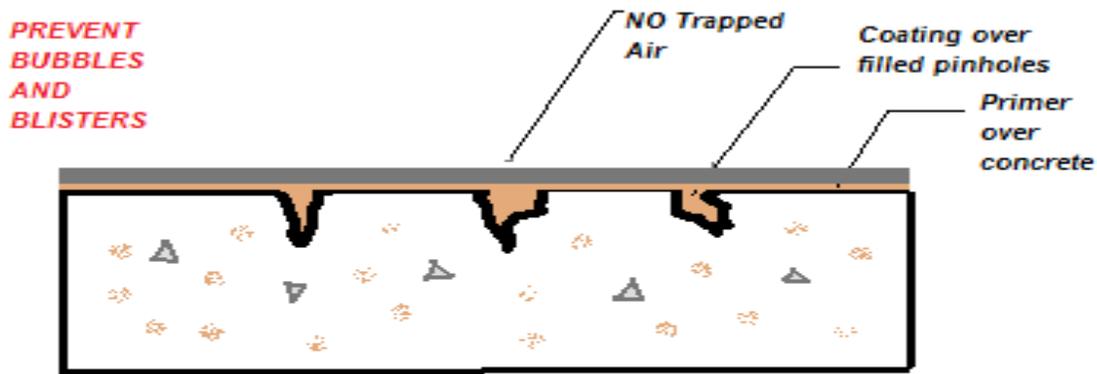
Fig 4 Small Cavities in deck



Fig #5 shows concrete with no pinholes or cavities



When Primer does not fill in cavity or pinhole during primer application air is trapped and in the cavity during the coating application and heated by sun or ambient temperatures before the coating cures.



1. Examine Concrete for Pinholes
2. Examine Primer Application for Pinholes and cavities
3. Fill Pinholes with Primer
4. Allow Primer to completely dry.

Prevent potential bubbles from forming in the coating by first examining the concrete surface for pinholes and cavities. It is not uncommon for aged concrete after it is shot-blasted or hydro blasted to have pinholes and cavities which can cause trapped air in the coating.

When cavities exist, fill them with primer. Sand can be sprinkled in the primer to help fill in the hole. Allow the primer to completely dry before coating. You must be able to walk on the primer without tack. Consult PSI with regard to primer window for coating. When bidding the project, always install a mock up on the surface to determine the estimated coverage rate of the primer.

Scarified concrete surfaces are prone to create pinholes in coating from both cavities and unremoved pulverized concrete powder driven into the concrete surface from the scarifying process. Examine these surfaces very closely before coating, all powder residue must be removed.

The product data sheets in the product data sheet section of the Poly-Tuff Binder or at www.polytuffus.com. Feel free to consult the related data sheet or call 866.977.8833 for further information.

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