The Nu-Phalt Case Study

Silverstone

Silverstone is a world-class racing track and home of the British Grand Prix. Nu-Phalt was asked to investigate minor track level defects that were causing the race cars to bottom out at approx 180mph and supply a solution using the patented Infrared Road Repair System.

Nu-Phalt observed that some very minor level changes at the entrance to an over-repaired section of the track were causing the problem, compounded by a minor depression at the exit of the repaired section. Under normal traffic conditions this would have never been classified as a defect, but racetrack conditions demand critical levels due to very limited suspension travel combined with the very high speeds of Formula 1 cars.

Following Nu-Phalt’s review of the surface, and given the urgency of the situation 10 days prior to the British Grand Prix, it was vital that Nu-Phalt corrected the problem that day and also provide track levels that would be stable for the future.

Using one fully-equipped vehicle with a two-man team, Nu-Phalt heated the track wearing course with an infrared emission at the entry level to the previously-repaired section.

Without any secondary damage, the section was compacted level with the original track, removing the defect entirely.

On the exit side of the repair Nu-Phalt used the same infrared settings and working process on both the repaired section and the original track, and added a very small amount of hot replacement asphalt to the depression. The repair was re-compacted to combine the added materials and the original track joint, bringing them back to a complete match and creating a seamless thermal bond.

Using one fully-equipped vehicle with a two-man team, Nu-Phalt heated the track wearing course with an infrared emission at the entry level to the previously-repaired section.

Without any secondary damage, the section was compacted level with the original track, removing the defect entirely.

This particular type of repair method is highly specialised and for very high-speed racing circuits is highly critical in preventing any secondary issues.

The repair was completed in just a few hours, and tested within an hour using the on-site Silverstone circuit vehicles. The test showed significant improvements, and subsequent pre-race inspections by authorised bodies and comments from the Grand Prix drivers both during practice and following the race itself confirmed the improvements made by Nu-Phalt.

Call Nu-Phalt today on 08442 571570 (UK South) or 01383 411210 (UK North) for a free, no-obligation quote, or email marketing@nuphalt.com for more information.