



WARNING!

Offers of immediate, cheap driveways may come at a huge price

There are unscrupulous people currently travelling around Australia offering cheap asphalt driveways.

These people knock on the door of unsuspecting residents, particularly the elderly, and advise that they have some asphalt left over from a previous job and can immediately lay a driveway for cash.

They then place a very thin layer of asphalt over an unprepared base and obtain payment in cash.

These driveways break up as soon as they are used.

This costs the householder significant money for a driveway that cannot be used and then additional cost to have the driveway repaired. It also gives our industry a bad name.

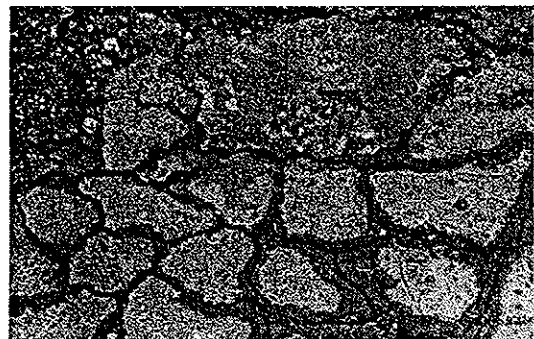
This practice occurs around the world and it is believed that the current operators have come to Australia in the European/UK winter. Then they return to the northern hemisphere in our winter to prey on people there.

One of our major asphalt suppliers in NSW was recently approached by individuals to purchase a load of asphalt. They arrived in a rented truck and wanted to pay with cash. When the plant manager approached them he received a vague and unconvincing response as to where they were intending to use the asphalt. He therefore refused to supply any asphalt.

In previous years at least one of these groups has held business cards printed stating that they worked for one of the major Australian asphalt producers. And the first this company knew of this was when people started complaining about the quality of the driveways.

Therefore be warned:

- **If you're a resident** and a group of workers arrive with a asphalt truck offering an immediate, cheap driveway, say no. Even if they produce business cards from a reputable company check with that company first (and don't use the number on the business card as that is not likely to be the correct number).
- **If you're an asphalt producer** and a truck pulls up seeking a load of asphalt for cash make sure that those purchasing it have a genuine purpose for that material.
- **If you're a paving contractor or asphalt supplier** and a resident contacts you about a poor quality job that was supposed to have been done by your employees but was not done by them, report this to the police.



Remember these unscrupulous individuals cause significant cost and problems for the individuals they prey on. Their practices also reflect badly on our whole industry.

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