SMALL BEADS
GREAT EFFECT
HARNESSING BEAM POWER FOR ROADWAY SAFETY
"High-grade reflective glass beads increase the visibility of road markings significantly. This makes driving at night and in wet conditions much safer and easier. Adding a touch of quality to all our lives."

PHILIPP SWAROVSKI
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER (COO)
ROAD MARKING SYSTEMS

SWARCO has been manufacturing reflective glass beads for road markings since 1969. There have been drastic changes in mobility over those five decades. Having said that, the vision we had back then is more true now than ever. Ensuring safety and comfort for all road users is fundamental to every road around the world.

The principle behind our reflective glass beads is as simple as it is brilliant: The micro glass beads which are embedded in the marking materials reflect the beam from the headlights back to the driver illuminating the road markings.

This enhances road safety substantially, in particular in the dark and in wet road conditions. In a nutshell, retro-reflective marking systems guide the traffic, keeping road users safe.

SWARCO Road Marking Systems is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of reflective glass beads, with production facilities in Europe, the United States and Saudi Arabia. Our glass bead products can help you improve the reflective power of the markings on your roads and increase the safety of all road users.
IT TAKES KNOW-HOW

Drop-on beads that fit
Drop-on beads are the cornerstones for the visibility of road markings at night. They create a high level of initial retro-reflection in new markings and make driving at night much safer. But which drop on beads systems are the right ones?

We can draw on our glass bead and marking binder knowledge to provide recommendations on: bead type, size distribution, coatings and anti-skid particles that will best fit your needs. For optimum work results and safe driving.
There are different types of reflective glass beads. Our smallest micro glass beads only measure a few thousandths of a millimeter, while the maximum diameter is 2 millimeters. Our product range consists of five different types of beads to satisfy all requirements.

EACH BEAD IS UNIQUE
The combinations are varied and individual

Crystal-clear advantages
- Increased visibility and safety for the motoring public
- Achieves excellent retroreflection values
- Exceptionally robust thanks to the special glass composition
- Significantly exceeds the required standard values even after several years of traffic exposure
- Suitable for all road marking materials
- Tailored precisely to individual customer requirements
- Increased anti-skid values with high retroreflection possible

SWARCO SOLIDPLUS

Visibly better
- Retroreflection values of over 1000 mcd/m²lx
- Excellent retroreflection even in coloured road markings
- Ideally suited for construction zone sites, accident black spots, zebra crossings
- Excellent visibility at night and in wet and foggy conditions

Noticeably more cost-effective
- Long service life
- Reduced costs for remarking
- Optimised price/performance ratio

- Diameters from 212 to 1400 μm
- Excellent retroreflection values
- Special glass composition
The standard in reflective glass beads
Our high-grade SWARCOFLEX standard glass beads achieve very good retro-reflective values. The product conforms to all national and international standards. Use in marking colors; in thermoplastic and thermal spray plastic; as well as in cold plastic and cold spray plastic.

SWARCOFLEX

Larger beads for enhanced wet night visibility
Our highly reflective MEGALUX-BEADS make marking systems more visible at night, in particular under wet conditions. This effect is achieved, firstly, by their crystal clear surfaces and, secondly, by the large diameter: Consequently, the bead protrudes out through the film of rain and is able to reflect the beam from the headlight. Suitable for thin-layered marking systems with increased requirements for visibility in the wet.

MEGALUX-BEADS

Heavy-duty bead mix
Our high-grade SWARCOLUX glass beads are mixtures of SWARCOFLEX and MEGALUX-BEADS. Thanks to the improved optical properties of the bead surface, they achieve very high levels of retro-reflection. Suitable for thin-layered marking systems with improved visibility in wet conditions.

SWARCOLUX

High-index beads in top-notch quality
Our high-index glass PLUS9BEADS act as top-quality reflectors for airport markings. In our production process, high-quality raw materials are melted into high-grade reflective material and shaped into the finest micro-glass beads.

PLUS9BEADS
SWARCO
SOLIDPLUS
the next generation of glass beads
OUR PHILOSOPHY

OUR GUIDING PRINCIPLE
As a premium reflective glass-bead product, SWARCO SOLIDPLUS is particularly durable, simple to apply, and ensures increased road safety thanks to its exceptional retroreflection.

OUR VISION
SWARCO SOLIDPLUS sets the economical and technical benchmark worldwide for the next generation of reflective glass beads, with maximum performance in wet and dry conditions.

OUR VALUES
Innovation, Sustainability, Reliability

OUR MOTTO
SWARCO SOLIDPLUS
the next generation of glass beads
PLUS9BEADS

High-index beads for airports

Special beads for airport markings: Our high-index glass PLUS9BEADS have a refractive index of at least 1.9 and retro-reflective values of up to 1500 mcd/m²lx, making them ideal for the most challenging marking requirements. The specially developed glass composition of high-grade raw materials is not recommended for highway applications due to rapid abrasion of glass beads under high traffic conditions.

Used in conjunction with high-grade marking materials, PLUS9BEADS guarantee optimum reflection even in the most difficult lighting and visibility. Their strengths are reflected at night or in rain and fog, in particular. This makes our high-index glass beads the first choice for marking tasks on demanding sites like airstrips or helicopter landing pads.
SHOWING THE WAY, WORLDWIDE

In 1969 we started out with the manufacture of tiny reflective glass beads. Today we have grown into the world’s largest systems provider for road markings. Making roads safer and saving lives on a daily basis. Our high quality products and services, safely direct traffic flow from A to B, every day and night. On all roads, in any weather, and all from SWARCO.

We prepare for the future, by fusing knowledge with innovation at our Competence Center for Glass Technology and Marking Systems. So, even with smart and autonomous driving, we continue to blaze the trail of premium road markings to the world. Jump in and drive with us; we will be happy to help you find your ideal road marking solutions.

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