

CONCRETE SURFACE RETARDER RETARDÉ E

ADDITIONAL APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (read in conjunction with Retardé data sheet and label)

1.0 DESCRIPTION

RETARDE E is a concrete surface retarder which when applied to the surface of freshly poured concrete retards its set to a depth of 3-6mm while the underlying concrete hardens normally. The retarded concrete can then be brushed or washed off leaving aggregate exposed but firmly embedded.

2.0 USES

RETARDE E is used to produce decorative and non-slip exposed aggregate finishes to in-situ and pre-cast concrete. Areas of use include paths, driveways, swimming pool surrounds etc.

RETARDE E is also used to form a mechanical key at construction joints, eliminating the need for expensive and damaging scabbling.

3.0 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

For best and consistent results, please consider the following points.

- 3.1 For an exposed aggregate mix concrete, an ideal water-cement ratio (w/c ratio) of around 0.45 will help provide a consistent etch. If the w/c ratio is too high, RETARDÉ E will provide a deeper etch. If the w/c ratio is too low (the concrete is much less permeable and higher strength), then the RETARDÉ E will not be able to work its way into the concrete and the etch will be shallow. For higher strength concrete, use RETARDÉ XTRA.
- 3.2 Spray the RETARDÉ E at the correct time. Wait until the bleed water goes away to ensure a uniform result. The concrete surface must not appear dry before applying RETARDÉ E – timing is important for a good, even etch.
- 3.3 RETARDÉ E is coloured to aid in application. Apply until the colour of the RETARDÉ E is uniform on the surface of the concrete. DO not over apply or allow the product to puddle.
- 3.4 Temperature will influence your work. If the temperature between days varies (hot one day, cold another), it is important to still expose the slab when the concrete is at the same hardness. Ensure that the area to be retarded is not unevenly exposed to varying temperatures or sun or wind. This might occur when applying the areas close to fences or buildings that are in shade during the morning but exposed to full sunshine during the afternoon.
- 3.5 RETARDÉ E works by penetrating the top surface and temporarily retarding the setting of the concrete to the desired depth. The cement paste below this layer sets normally and binds the aggregate into the concrete. Generally, the window of opportunity for exposing of the aggregate begins at final set or as soon as the surface can support the weight of a person. During hot weather, timing is important to ensure the exposed concrete doesn't start to set. Hot weather also accelerates the curing rate of concrete and therefore both factors can significantly reduce the effectiveness of RETARDÉ E if left on the surface for too long.

RETARDÉ E

Additional Application Instructions Continued

3.0 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (continued)

- 3.6 If a delay in removing the retarded concrete is unavoidable (such as being unable to remove until the next morning), then cover the concrete with a polythene cover. Ensure that the cover makes good contact with the concrete surface as any areas exposed to air will dry out quickly. Removed retarded mix as soon as possible.
- 3.7 If a fine laitance remains on the surface of the exposed aggregate, then clean off using a weak solution of MISTC ACID and water.
- 3.8 Clean up equipment with water.



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