TECHNICAL BULLETIN – TB108

LEVELLING OVER EXISTING EPOXY COATINGS WITH ARDEX K15, K12 OR K55

Date, Thursday, 11 September 2014

INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

The ARDEX FLC topping system over epoxy coatings relies on the integrity, bond of the epoxy coating and the compatibility of the epoxy coating to accept new coatings. Any loose, drummy or flaking sections must be removed. Due to the design characteristics, some epoxy coatings are unsuitable for over coatings, so it is important to conduct a "Test Area" prior to installation of any new coating or underlayment. Resin rich epoxies are more difficult to bond to than filler rich systems. The success of this system relies on the epoxy coating being perfectly clean and free of all grease, oil, sealers, wax etc., back to a squeaky clean surface.

Always seek professional advice to obtain a suitable commercial grade detergent/degreaser used with an automatic scrubbing machine that will hold all dirt, oil, grease etc., in suspension until removal. It is essential to avoid dirt, grease, and oil migration via foot traffic from soiled areas back onto the cleaned area.

PROCEDURE

1. Ensure the epoxy coating is firmly bonded. If there is any doubt about the coating integrity or adhesion it must be removed by mechanical methods. This procedure only refers to epoxy flooring, and surfaces such as polyurethane or synthetic rubberised coatings must be fully removed. If in doubt – remove it. Refer to Ardex Technical Bulletin TB041 for mechanical preparation methods if required.
2. Remove all grease, oil, polish and any other contaminant by means of a film-less commercial grade detergents/degreaser used with an automatic scrubbing machine. Flush away all residues with copious amounts of clean water. Do not use solvents as they are toxic, flammable and can create problems with potential chemical attack damage to the epoxy surface.
3. Allow to dry completely.
4. Mechanically roughen the surface of the epoxy coating by sanding with a Carborundum paper, grit size 24-40 grit to CSP1 or CSP2.
5. Vacuum to remove all dust.
6. Prime with ARDEX P82 as per the product datasheet.
7. The cement-based self-smoothing underlayment shall be ARDEX K15 (*Microtech*), ARDEX K12 (*New*) or ARDEX K55.The additive to be mixed with ARDEX K15, or K12 when used over epoxy coatings, metal or wooden subfloors shall be ARDEX E25 Resilient Emulsion (see ratios below).

   K55 does not require addition of ARDEX E25.
8. Install as per ARDEX product datasheet instructions. Minimum installation thickness 2 – 3mm
9. **Always install a test area to determine the suitability of product for intended use**.

Product	Weight powder kg	Litres Ardex E25	Litres water
K15 *Microtech*	20	1.6	4
K12 *New*	20	1.6	4

IMPORTANT

This Technical Bulletin provides guideline information only and is not intended to be interpreted as a general specification for the application/installation of the products described. Since each project potentially differs in exposure/condition specific recommendations may vary from the information contained herein. For recommendations for specific applications/installations contact your nearest Ardex Australia Office.

DISCLAIMER

The information presented in this Technical Bulletin is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. No warranty is implied or given as to its completeness or accuracy in describing the performance or suitability of a product for a particular application. Users are asked to check that the literature in their possession is the latest issue.

REASON FOR REVISION

Removal of K10 and K15 and K12 original. Slight text changes

REVIEW PERIOD

24 months from issue.

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