

Concrete Surface Retarder ETCHING FLUID

TECHNICAL DATA

1.0 DESCRIPTION

ETCHING FLUID is a water based concrete surface retarder which when applied to formwork, prevents concrete poured against it from setting to a depth of 5-10mm, for up to 48 hours. This allows the retarded concrete to be removed by hose after the forms have been stripped, resulting in an exposed aggregate finish.

2.0 PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

2.1. Colour	Transparent Red
2.2. Specific Gravity	1.1
2.3. Flash Point	~40°C
2.4. Viscosity	Low to medium
2.5. Toxicity	Harmful substance. Contains Methylated Sprits.
2.6. D.G. Classification	3.1C, Flammable Liquid, N.O.S.
2.7. Shelf Life	Unlimited in sealed drums as supplied
2.8. Coverage	5 - 6 m ² / litre

3.0 USES

- 3.1. ETCHING FLUID is used to create a mechanical key on a concrete surface which is to have more concrete poured against it. An example of this is where ETCHING FLUID is painted on stop ends which confine individual pours of a floor slab. When the stop ends are removed and the retarded concrete is washed off, the resultant exposed aggregate finish makes an excellent key for the next pour.
- 3.2. ETCHING FLUID can also be used to create an architectural exposed aggregate finish on columns, beam panels, pavers and any other formed concrete surface.

4.0 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

- 4.1 ETCHING FLUID may develop flammable vapours if heated above 40°C. Apply in a well-ventilated area and avoid open flames. No smoking. Keep away from ignition sources. Store in a cool location (15 – 25 degrees C). Wear protective gloves and clothing when using.
- 4.2 ETCHING FLUID is applied by brush, roller or spray and preferably allowed to dry for about 1 hour before pouring concrete.
- 4.3 ETCHING FLUID has no release value so that forms should get normal treatment with DISCRETE before application. This will prevent any build up on the stripped forms sticking after the retarded concrete has eventually set.

ETCHING FLUID

TECHNICAL DATA Continued

4.0 APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (continued)

- 4.4 Normal strength concrete placed at normal temperatures should be removed within 48 hours. High strength concrete or concrete placed at high temperature will not be retarded for as long and consequently should have forms stripped and retarded concrete removed within 24 hours or sooner as determined by testing the effectiveness of ETCHING FLUID with the proposed concrete mix.
- 4.5 Upon removal of the formwork, preferably within 24 hours, the concrete surface must be brushed and washed immediately with low-pressure water. Much of the unset surface mortar will stick to the form during the stripping operation. This soft mortar is easily removed by water jet and a stiff broom.
- 4.6 Due to Methylated Spirits content wear protective clothing, and avoid skin contact. Refer to product safety data sheet for complete information.
- 4.7 Accelerating admixtures and hot weather all reduce the effectiveness of ETCHING FLUID. Check suitability of ETCHING FLUID performance with steam curing of concrete prior to widespread use.
- 4.8 Treated formwork will withstand a shower, but not heavy rain, as the ETCHING FLUID is soluble in water.

5.0 PACKAGING

20 litre pails, 210 litre drums.



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