



FORMWORK TREATMENTS

Concrete Formwork Treatments

FORMTARD-MF

Concrete Surface Retarders for Mould Face Treatment

Purpose

To provide an exposed aggregate finish for concrete as an attractive architectural feature or as a key for subsequent pours or renders.

FORMTARD-MF for application to mould face prior to placing of concrete.

Description

An off-white to light brown latex emulsion paint.

Advantages

- Adheres firmly to mould face so that it is not displaced during placing of concrete thus avoiding un-retarded patches.
- Has extended retardation period enabling main body of concrete to achieve higher strength before mould is stripped.
- Ideal for use where clean demarcation is required between fair face and exposed aggregate finish on same unit.
- Will not discolour concrete.
- Suitable for use on heated moulds.
- Will retard but not kill set of cement therefore accidental contact with reinforcement will not impair bond of reinforcement to concrete.
- Economical in use due to extremely high rate of coverage.

FORMTARD-MF was tested by the “Research Committee for the Cast Stone & Cast Concrete Products Industry” and obtained a “Grade A” rating on all aspects tested.

Mould Preparation

Best results are achieved on a mould face that is clean, dry and free of any deposits, with uniform absorbency. To facilitate cleaning of mould after stripping it is recommended that a very light mist coat of **FORMLEASE** Concrete Chemical Release Agent be applied to the mould face and allowed to dry thoroughly before application of **FORMTARD-MF**.

Application

It is possible that on prolonged storage partial separation of the emulsion constituents may have occurred; therefore it is advisable to lightly stir the material before use. Apply thinly and uniformly by brush or roller in temperatures above freezing and allow to dry and set firm before placing concrete. Time for this is 15-25 minutes dependent upon factors such as temperature and wind which influence rate of evaporation of solvents. After treatment protect from contact with moisture until placing of concrete.

Coverage

A coverage of 15-16 square metres per litre will give best results. If a heavier coating is applied it may not dry and set firm sufficiently due to entrapped solvents.

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Placing Concrete

On horizontal pours the concrete should be placed evenly across the surface. If the concrete is poured from one end only and moved across the face a heavy scouring action results which could remove the retarder from the mould face. On vertical pours the mould face should be protected from concrete splashes. This is best achieved by use of a tremie or a sheet placed in the mould and withdrawn gradually as level of concrete rises.

Stripping Moulds

Time before stripping is dependent upon the numerous factors which affect the rate of hardening of concrete. In general stripping should be within 1-2 days. For longer periods or where an accelerated method of hardening is adopted tests should first be made on trial panels to establish the optimum stripping time.

Removal of Retarded Matrix

Contact with the air stiffens the surface sand/cement matrix. Therefore removal of the matrix should be as soon as possible after stripping of mould. The stiffening factor can be used to reduce depth of aggregate exposure by delaying removal of matrix for a length of period established by trials. Removal of retarded matrix should be by low pressure water jetting and brooming or wire brushing in two directions at right angles to each other.

Cleaning Equipment and Moulds

Clean brushes and rollers immediately after use with RESOKLENS. Any retarded matrix adhering to mould face should be removed as soon as possible by first softening with RESOKLENS and then scraping with a flat bladed scraper or similar.

Storage

In sealed containers at room temperature away from sources of heat or naked flame. Protect from frost.

Health & Safety

Flash point is 25°C therefore liquid or vapour should not be exposed to naked flame and smoking should be prohibited. Avoid ingestion, contact with skin or eyes and prolonged inhalation of vapour. In the event of skin contact wash thoroughly. If ingested seek medical attention without delay. In the event of eye contact irrigate immediately with copious quantities of clean water and seek medical attention without delay.

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