

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

PREPARATION OF TOPFLOW SCREED A

The preparation of Topflow Screed A to receive floor coverings can be split into four areas: sanding, moisture testing, Underfloor Heating (UFH) commissioning and priming. These notes are a brief outline, further detail can be found in our data sheets available online at www.tarmac.com/topflowscreed

SANDING

Topflow Screed A will require heavier sanding/grinding to remove surface laitance. Sanding at 7-10 days will also improve drying performance. Topflow Screed A low laitance requires a light sanding with 60 grit sandpaper to form a surface key prior to the application of subsequent floor coverings. In both instances the dust residue needs to be vacuumed up.

TOPFLOW SCREED A LL (LOW LAITANCE)

Although the laitance of this product is substantially reduced, the product still requires abrading prior to the application of floor coverings to remove dirt, building debris and any other contaminants to ensure a suitable key for the application of primers and adhesives.

MOISTURE TESTING

As with all screeds, in good conditions Topflow Screed A has a natural drying time of 1mm per day up to 40mm and 0.5mm after that, drying times can be greatly affected by site conditions, so it is advised that the atmosphere is kept as dry as possible. Commissioning the UFH and/or using dehumidifiers can greatly improve the figures above. Prior to the application of coverings the screed moisture must be tested using either a hair hygrometer, carbide bomb or oven test and be below 75% RH (0.5% moisture). NB: It may be possible to use gypsum based products at 85% RH - manufacturers must be consulted.

UNDERFLOOR HEAT COMMISSIONING

Where underfloor heating is used this must be

commissioned and run prior to the application of floor coverings regardless of how dry the screed may be, this is in line with CFA, TTA, vinyl and tile manufacturers' guidelines. This process forces additional moisture from the screed and conditions it to thermal movement prior to coverings.

Typically the commissioning cycle is 21 days and can be started as early as seven days with Topflow Screed A.

(Please refer to the Topflow Screed A 'Underfloor Heating' data sheet.)

PRIMING

As with all screeds, Topflow Screed A will require priming prior to application of adhesives for two reasons:

- 1) To seal the porous surface to prevent suction of moisture from the adhesive or smoothing compound
- 2) To form a barrier between the screed and any cement based smoothing compound or adhesive that may be used

Primers are generally acrylic dispersion or water-based epoxy based and generally perform best when used as a two-coat system. However, the manufacturers of these primers should be consulted for advice prior to use. (Please refer to the Topflow Screed A 'Post Installation Guidelines' data sheet.)

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