



# Fast drying screed additives

Fast drying screed additives are used to reduce the drying time of cementitious levelling screeds and fine concretes from months to days to allow the early laying and installation of impervious and moisture sensitive floor coverings. Screed additives will allow 8 days, 4 days, and 1 day overlays. This reduction in drying time, equates to savings in both time and labour.

An example of a 8 Day Overlay screed at 50mm will additive will reach RH < 80% after 3 days and 75% after 8 days and a 28 day compressive strength in excess of 40N/mm.

## Uses

Fast drying for bonded, unbounded, and floating screeds  
Minimum screed depth 35mm  
Can be laid onto pre-cast planks  
Fast-track projects where access is required soon after installation  
New construction and refurbishment including high traffic areas  
Suitable for commercial, hospital, retail and domestic use

## Benefits

Facilitates earlier installation of floor coverings  
Protein free  
Accommodates under floor heating systems and insulation  
Can be pumped from mixer to the point of application  
Can receive traffic from following trades after 24 hours  
Meets the requirements of Category A (Very Heavy Traffic) of BRE Drop Hammer Test in accordance

## Embedded Conduits and Pipes

When laying conduits or pipes within screeds the conduit or pipe should be a minimum of 25mm beneath the top surface. It is advisable to incorporate reinforcing mesh, ideally in the middle third of the screed over the conduit or pipe, extending for not less than 150mm each side to minimise the risk of cracking.

## Joints

Construction joints and expansion in the substrate must be expressed through into the screed.

When laying on suspended floors movement joints should be installed in the screed over support positions to accommodate movement. Isolation joints should be installed around the perimeter of the floor and around columns, manholes and fixed spaces to accommodate movement.

## Curing

Curing must commence as soon as possible after finishing the screed. Cure the screed with tight fitting polythene, placed on to the screed as early as possible without damaging the surface. Cover for 24 hours then remove and air cure.

## Laying on to Precast Planks

When laying a screed on to precast planks the screed should ideally be laid unbonded with a separating membrane. If the screed cannot be laid thick enough to be unbonded, the planks should be textured, clean and laitance free, and the screed bonded with a suitable bonding agent. Reinforcing the screed with a suitable mesh (e.g. D49 mesh placed in the middle third of the screed) may be appropriate for particular types of suspended floor design.

