

Correct surface preparation is essential to ensure that the maximum adhesion is obtained from Ryebrook Resin Systems. The presence of any contaminants or barriers such as oil, grease, old paint films, plaster residues, laitance, dust etc. must be avoided to ensure total adhesion.

CEMENT BASED FLOORS (Concrete, Grano, etc.)

Substrate Preparation

All cementitious substrates must be protected by an adequate and effective DPM and have a maximum residual moisture content of 5% by weight (75% Relative Humidity). Unless system data specified otherwise, please always seek our advice. Existing floors based on magnesite compositions should always be regarded with suspicion due to the potentially hygroscopic nature of this formulations. Please always seek our advice.

Chemical Degreasing

Remove any oil, grease, chemical contaminants, paint etc. by use of heavy degreasers and paint strippers. After treatment the surface must be thoroughly washed down to remove all chemical residues and to ensure that the surface is chemically neutral. The floor must then be dried to the maximum moisture content specified. Once the surface is completely free of contamination, the aggregate surface of the substrate must be exposed utilising mechanical preparation methods to allow penetration of resin into the substrate.

Mechanical Preparation

- **Shot Blasting** - Several methods of surface preparation have been devised over the years but without doubt the most successful and economical method is dust free shot blasting for concrete or granolithic surfaces. The surface texture that can be achieved, coupled with the ability to remove surface contamination, can be adjusted to suit specific site conditions and requirements. Compact machines are now available to allow access to small and restricted areas at economical cost.

Other successful mechanical surface preparation techniques include:

- **Scarifying**, where the surface is broken away evenly by rotating flails or hard metal teeth. Equipment is available with efficient dust control mechanisms.
- **Scabbling**, where the surface is spalled off using pneumatic powered machines - dust generation is difficult to control.
- **Diamond Grinding**, is ideal for removing built up coatings, latex, tile and carpet adhesives etc. without damaging the sub floor. Dust and surface contamination is removed at source by 3 motor vacuum recovery.
- **Hot compressed air treatment**. This technique is particularly useful in areas which have been badly contaminated with oil and grease. However it can weaken low grade concrete and immediate treatment with a low viscosity primer is essential to maintain satisfactory strength in the substrate, coupled with the provision of an effective barrier to residual oil. This method is often employed in combination with chemical degreasing and dust free shot blasting. Please seek our advice.

WOODEN FLOORS

All wooden floors (minimum 18mm marine ply) must be securely fastened down and any fixings (maximum 150mm centres) punched below the surface. They must be protected from rising moisture by an effective damp proof membrane. Old wooden surfaces should be sanded thoroughly to expose clean wood. New wood, plywood, wood blocks, etc. may have been chemically treated, and if the surface appears at all greasy, it is advisable to treat the surface with Ryebrook solvent to thoroughly remove all residues to ensure maximum adhesion.

METAL FLOORS

Metal flooring and decking must be free from oil, grease, etc. Any rust or mill scale must be removed. The preferred method of preparation is by dust-free shot blasting to SA 2.5 standards.

FINAL PREPARATION

After preparation, all dust and loose material must be totally removed by industrial vacuum before priming to ensure that primer penetration is not retarded by residual dust.