

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

ACID WASH

Problem: Too much secondary Release Agent colour taken up by the colour surface hardener and cannot be removed by Release Agent Wash and waterjet.

Causes: Surface of the concrete was too wet, due to excessively wet concrete delivered to site, rain or drizzle during the day, printing too early or standing on mats too long.

Possible When on multi pour installations, one pour may look a different colour to the adjoining slab.

Effects: Some areas of a pour may appear unacceptably blotchy

Excessive Antiquing on the surface will decrease the bonding performance of the sealer to the surface of the paving resulting in small isolated areas of virgin primary colour appearing as the sealer, when it debonds, takes the secondary release agent colour with it, generally on the highest parts of the imprinted surface.

Wear by vehicles will result in sealer being removed/worn away, resulting in the same effect as above but at a later date.

Remedial Action: Acid Wash

Method:

1. Ensure that the paving has been thoroughly soaked/saturated with water.
2. Remove excess surface water from the surface of the paving by brush or blower.
3. There is not a necessity to remove all free water. A small amount of excess water collecting in the joints and deeper areas of the imprint will only have the effect of diluting the acid and therefore reducing / completely nullifying its effect on the reduction of antique secondary colour in these areas. Fortunately it is in these places that the secondary colour is meant to be, so the acid having little or no effect is acceptable.

4. Once excess surface water has been removed spray acid over the surface of the paving. Once evenly applied, allow to work for a few minutes. Brush around with a coco broom and wash thoroughly with clean water.
5. Repeat steps 2 - 4 as / where required to remove the desired amount of secondary antique colour. Remember, what the slab looks like when wet will be what it looks like when sealed.
6. What should always be aimed for is secondary Antiquing colour in the deepest parts only. The secondary colour should not change the colour or tone of the primary colour on the highest points of the paving. Even if it is aesthetically very acceptable, the installation could develop other problems, mentioned above in "possible effects" at a later date.
7. If the paving has been sealed prior to the amount of secondary Antiquing colour being required to be removed, the sealer must be removed first - see fact sheet "Reseals: Installations between 24 hrs and 28 days old - Section C points 1 – 12".
8. If too much secondary Antique colour is removed - see fact "Antique Colour Wash".
9. When using the acid wash method on a slab, remember that caution and diligence must be exercised at all times. Acid can damage concrete of any type. The process works by the acid etching (eating away) the surface of the Colour Surface Hardener, which in turn allows the secondary Antiquing release to become free and be washed away. Over zealous or generous applications of acid could, in certain circumstances, cause damage to the installation. If in any doubt, please contact **PICS Technical Department** prior to attempting any remedial work.