

DEC-TECHNICAL BULLETIN



Bulletin No: TB008 Version: v.01 Effective Date: 2021-04-16

Subject: SUBSTRATE RECCOMENDATIONS - CONCRETE

- Product Pre-Installation Installation Repair Maintenance Other
 External Internal Use Internal Use Only

Target Audience: All
Reason for Bulletin: Provide substrate recommendations for concrete.

Details:
A strong foundation and properly constructed base structure is essential to the success and longevity of the installation. The following should be inspected carefully ensuring conformance to local building codes. Failure to recognize and remedy undesirable substrate conditions can potentially lead to issues affecting the quality of the overall installation.

This bulletin provides recommendations and consideration for applying Dec-Tec to concrete substrate.

Concrete terminology

On-grade concrete – Concrete that is located directly on top of the ground surface. Example: Driveway slab.

Above grade concrete – Concrete that is elevated away from the surface of the ground. Example: Second story patio deck.

Poured in place concrete – Concrete mix that is prepared at the job site. This is also called cast-in-place concrete. The mixed concrete is poured into forms where it will set.

Precast concrete – Concrete that is premade in a controlled environment. This typically will result in a better quality concrete.

Concrete Surface Profile (CSP) – It is a standardized measure for the roughness of a concrete surface. The standards are rated from 1 to 9, 1 being the smoothest surface and 9 being the roughest surface.

Recommended Concrete Substrate

Grade level: Above grade concrete
Note: On grade concrete is acceptable if following conditions are met.

1. A vapor barrier is present to prevent moisture entering into concrete.
2. Relative humidity level should not be greater than 70%

Type: Precast concrete or poured in place concrete

Thickness: 4 in. minimum (101.6mm)

Surface Profile: CSP 1, 2 or 3

Concrete Cure time:

- Old concrete – Dec-Tec should only be applied to old concrete after the concrete has been at least for a year.
- Newly constructed concrete – concrete should be allowed to cure for 28 days per inch before Dec-Tec application.

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Note: Use of any concrete substrate other than those approved may VOID any warranty expressed or implied. Dec-Tec acknowledges there may be other suitable concrete substrates and is prepared to review and possibly test alternative substrates at its sole discretion.

General Recommendations

1. Moisture is the biggest consideration when it comes to applying membrane on concrete. Prior to applying Dec-Tec, moisture testing should be performed to evaluate the moisture level in the concrete. Following is a technique that you can use to test the moisture level:
 - a. Clear poly test – This method is not the most accurate but will give you a general idea on the presence of moisture. Hold a clear poly in place with duct tape or caulk, in a 12”- 18” square. Let it sit through heat of the day; if moisture is present you will see it in the form of condensation on the underside of the poly.

Concrete Surface Preparation:

1. Make sure the entire substrate is structurally sound, dry, solid, and stable.
2. The substrate should be clean and free of dust, dirt, oil grease, paint, curing agents, sealers, loose particles, old adhesive residues, and any other substance or condition that may prevent or reduce adhesion.

Concrete surface application:

Adhesives used for concrete application depends on the concrete surface profile. See the table below to choose the appropriate adhesive for your concrete surface.

Concrete Surface Profile	Recommended Adhesive
CSP 1	SBA 100 R, SBA 200 VC or WBA 100
CSP 2	WBA 100
CSP 3	WBA 100

For further guidance on Dec-Tec application, refer to the wood installation guide [1]. Please note that this guide is for Dec-Tec on wood application. Although, most of the installation techniques on concrete will remain the same as for wood. Refer to this bulletin and the wood installation guide for best results.

Additional reference:

- [1] CM-001 Basic Installation Guide - Wood Substrate V.03
- [2] TB006 - SUBSTRATE RECOMMENDATIONS - WOOD v.04

If you have any questions concerning this bulletin, please contact Dec-Tec, Technical Support at 1-866-461-3914.

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