AC•TECH | Allied Construction Technologies, Inc.
When Performance Counts

From Our Team -- to Your Team -- October 2017

Our Team is totally focused on helping contractors meet Industry Standards.

In that spirit, the AC•TECH Technical Team is encouraging everyone to review the data sheets of the products you are currently installing or will install on upcoming projects.

Have you done that lately? Checked the datasheets against current Industry Standards?

You may be surprised to discover just how exposed you are to liability and finger-pointing.

ASTM F710 makes it the contractor's responsibility to deal with any (and all) problems in the concrete slab before installing floor coverings, construction coatings, or low slope roofing assemblies.

That includes moisture, pH, slab contaminants, concrete quality, and surface prep appropriate for that specific slab.

You accept the slab … you own the slab. It's now your responsibility to get it all right. That's what ASTM F710, ACI 302.2R-06, Data Sheets, and project specifications all say.

ASTM F710-17
Standard Practice for Preparing Concrete Floors to Receive Resilient Flooring

ACI 302.2R-06
Guide for Concrete Slabs that Receive Moisture-Sensitive Flooring Materials

With more and more "miracle" products and methods swooping down on your jobsite offering a "better", "less costly", "just-as-effective", "shortcut" way to deal with substrate issues … remember the following:

1) There is just ONE Industry Standard for Moisture Mitigation. That's ASTM F3010.

2) There is NO Industry Standard for pH Mitigation. So, what are you being told to do?

   (No, measuring the "low" pH of the carbonation layer does not give you a free pass. And, no, vinegar wash is NOT an Industry Standard for getting the pH of the slab down to the required pH tolerances of your adhesives and coatings).

ASTM F3010-13
Standard Practice for Two-Component Resin Based Membrane-Forming Moisture Mitigation Systems for Use Under Resilient Floor Coverings

3) There are no shortcuts to properly preparing a concrete slab so that it is ready to receive underlayments, adhesives, and fluid-applied coatings. Any product data sheet that says that you can skip mechanical prep in the marketing headline has probably got some important fine print you should read (at the bottom of page 2, or on the website, or in the warranty).

As a product manufacturer, we're doing our best to get the word out, so you are not the one always caught in the middle between "You Must Make it Work…" and "You Figure Out How…" -- and between "We Didn't Plan for That…" and "You're The Expert - You Should Have Known Better...".

After all, the contractor should not be the only one left holding the bag when things go wrong because short-cuts were taken, or the wrong type of product was used.

> Industry Standards protect the contractor... and the project.
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> Industry Standards are the best Risk Mitigation tools any of us have.
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> Protect yourself. Insist everyone follows the Standards.

With the proper ASTM F3010 product for Moisture Mitigation you can also protect your project from concrete alkalinity up to pH 14 (the maximum possible). That's a two-fer and keeps you in compliance with ASTM F710 and ACI 302-2R-06 as far as product tolerances to pH and moisture are concerned.

If you need more than ASTM F710, ACI 302.2R-06, and ASTM F3010 to convince decision makers about the correct way to do things, put your customer in touch with the AC•TECH Technical Team.

Our Tech Team has decades of experience dealing with every aspect of failure due to not following industry standards. They can provide the case studies, references and solutions to these slab preparation issues.

If you are still asked to cut corners, you may want to consider walking away. The eventual fallout from an underperforming installation (or failure) would most probably have your name written all over it -- as the "fall guy".

There are no shortcuts to slab preparation. There is no substitute to following Industry Standards.

AC•TECH Team

PS – If you're having consistent trouble educating your customers and clients about the ***Industry Standard*** way to do things, give us a shout. AC•TECH is committed to supporting contractors to ensure the long-term success of every project.

Moisture Mitigation. pH Mitigation. Risk Mitigation. It should all be in one package.

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