



Technical Bulletin # 104

RE: GYP-CRETE® 2000 Gypsum Cement Floor Underlayments

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Gypsum cement floor underlayments are now being specified in multi-level condominiums, high-rise office buildings and for radiant heated floors in conjunction with ceramic tile and dimensional stone installations.

Past technology did not permit tiles to be installed directly to the surface of a gypsum substrate with Portland cement-based dry set mortars. With advances in higher compressive strength products (2000 psi or greater) such as those manufactured by Gyp-Crete combined with elastomeric mortars technology, C-Cure can now recommend tile installations directly over certain gypsum-based underlayments. However, these new installation methods require special surface preparation in conjunction with applications utilizing C-Cure's UNIFLEX 916 or ULTRACURE 971.

UNIFLEX 916 Elastomeric Dry Set Mortar and ULTRACURE 971 Elastomeric Waterproofing Membrane produce tenacious bonds to these high compressive strength gypsum underlayments and provide anti-fracture protection for the tile installation. Tile can be installed over these gypsum floor underlayments in areas designated as interior, dry, and above grade floors for residential and light commercial traffic. Once the Gyp-Crete 2000 or Grace Rapid Floor Plus System is properly installed and cured in accordance with the manufacturer's directions, preparation for the installation of ceramic tile may begin.

Surface preparation steps are as follows:

STEP 1.

The underlayment must be sufficiently dry and properly cured to the manufacturer's specifications for permanent, non-moisture permeable coverings.

STEP 2.

All surfaces to be tiled must be structurally sound and subject to deflection not to exceed 1/360th of the span. Surfaces shall be dry and free of all grease, oil, dirt, dust, curing compounds, waxes, sealers, efflorescence, old adhesive residue, gypsum-based patching compounds and any other foreign matter.

STEP 3.

All gypsum cement underlayment surfaces to receive UNIFLEX 916 or ULTRACURE 971 must be primed. The primer shall be properly diluted Maxxon Overspray®, undiluted C-Cure CUREMIX 937 or undiluted CURECRYLIC 938 applied at a rate of 250-300 sq. ft./gallon. The primer can be brushed, rolled or sprayed to achieve an even coat. On extremely porous surfaces, two applications may be required. Allow the primer coat to thoroughly dry 24 hours.

STEP 4.

The UNIFLEX 916 or the ULTRACURE 971 can then be applied to the primed gypsum cement underlayment. Refer to individual product data sheets or packaging directions for the correct mixing and application instructions. Expansion joints shall be installed in accordance with local building codes. See EJ 171 in T.C.A. Handbook for detailed specifications. Expansion joints, control joints and cold joints shall never be bridged with setting material.

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