BASF
The Chemical Company

RHEOFINISH® 288 FD

Concrete surface retarder for forms and moulds

Description

RHEOFINISH® 288 FD is a medium viscosity, liquid retarder used for achieving an exposed aggregate finish on concrete by retarding the setting of cement paste in the surface matrix of formed concrete and then removing it. The surface retarder is applied on the formwork to effect retardation of the surface of fresh concrete in contact with the treated forms.

Recommended for

RHEOFINISH® 288 FD is recommended for all formed concrete where it is desired to obtain an exposed aggregate finish or a keyed surface for a superior bond with subsequently placed concrete or mortar layer. The variable depth of retardation allows considerable flexibility to architects in using different shapes and sizes of aggregate to produce attractive patterns of exposed aggregates on cast in-situ or precast panels.

Features and benefits

Controlled depth of retardation	Consistent textured finish.
Does not kill hardening process	No deleterious effect on the core concrete or the strength of the concrete mass.
Variable depth of retardation	Scope for producing decorative patterns of exposed aggregates with different shapes and sizes of aggregates.
Creates rough texture	Excellent bond for subsequently laid mortar or concrete layer. Avoids costly surface roughening procedures.
Allows smooth form release	No need for a form release agent.

Packaging

RHEOFINISH® 288 FD is available in 25 litre carboys and 205 litre plastic lined drums.

*Typical performance data

Typical depth of retardation: 8mm@ 10-12 m² / litre.

Supply form	Medium viscosity liquid
Colour	Deep Green

Application

Use RHEOFINISH® 288 FD as supplied after stirring thoroughly. Ensure that the surface of formwork is clean and free from oil, grease, mould releasing agents, water, cement or other loosely adhering materials.

Apply RHEOFINISH® 288 FD at the recommended rate of application (see Dosage) by brush on the inner surfaces of the formwork at least an hour before the placing of concrete.

Protect the applied surface from rain or other damage. Avoid scouring of the treated form surfaces while using poker vibrators, and minimise the flow of concrete across the treated forms while placing and vibrating concrete.

Strike off formwork within 48 hours of placing concrete and then immediately hose down the treated surface with medium water pressure to wash away the unset cement paste in the surface matrix. Brush away all the loosely adhering materials.

BASF
The Chemical Company

RHEOFINISH® 288 FD

Clean the form surfaces of adhering cement paste immediately after striking off. The debris thus collected should be washed away as cement paste can later set hard making it difficult to remove. The period of surface retardation will be reduced in hot weather and also if air voids are present between the form and concrete face.

The period and the depth of retardation can be increased by increasing the rate of application of RHEOFINISH® 288FD.

Note:

a. It is recommended that field trials be conducted at different coverage rates on the design concrete mix with site raw materials, to determine the optimum depths of penetration.
b. With high alumina and rapid hardening cements the concrete should be deshuttered within 6-8 hours.

Dosage

The rate of application depends upon the depth of retardation desired. RHEOFINISH® 288 FD applied @ 10-12 m² / litre typically results in a depth of retardation of up to 8 mm. Greater depths of retardation are possible @ 6-8m² / litre. Therefore material requirement is 0.1 litre / m² to achieve approximately 8mm depth of retardation.

Shelf life

RHEOFINISH® 288 FD can be stored for 12 months if stored at temperatures above 5°C in tightly sealed original drums. If found to be frozen, thaw it and reconstitute by stirring.

Precautions

Health: RHEOFINISH® 288 FD is non toxic but can cause irritation to persons with sensitive skin if exposed. Safety: Wear eye protection and gloves while handling the product. Wash thoroughly after handling. Fire: Not flammable. For detailed Health, Safety and Environmental Recommendations, please consult and follow all instructions on the product Material Safety Data Sheet.

Note

Field service, where provided, does not constitute supervisory responsibility. For additional information contact your local BASF representative.

BASF reserves the right to have the true cause of any difficulty determined by accepted test methods.

Quality and care

All products originating from BASF's Dubai, UAE facility are manufactured under a management system independently certified to conform to the requirements of the quality, environmental and occupational health & safety standards ISO 9001, ISO 14001 and OHSAS 18001.

11/2002 BASF_CC-UAE revised 02/2004

* Properties listed are based on laboratory controlled tests.

BASF Construction Chemicals UAE LLC
P.O. Box 37127, Dubai, UAE
Tel: +971 4 8090800 Fax: +971 4 8851002
www.basf-cc.ae