



TECHNICAL SERVICES REPORT

TSD 1024-001

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Customer: Robert Hawkins – Vulcano Design
Tiles Evaluated: Moroccan Panel

BACKGROUND

An assortment of tiles were supplied for testing to the ARDEX Technical Services Department in Seven Hills for adhesive recommendations. The intended applications are for internal and external walls and floors.



The Moroccan Panel was a conglomerate of small encaustic tiles that were adhered together using an epoxy adhesive. Between the epoxy binding adhesive, lightly bound cement residues were present. This surface contamination was successfully removed via brushing the rear surface with a stiff nylon brush which revealed the true tile body.

METHOD

Separate tests were performed due to the presence of different tile types.

The adhesives tested consisted of:

ARDEX WA100
ARDEX S28
ARDEX X18



Moroccan Panel:

As a large portion of the tile rear consisted of an epoxy adhesive, used to bind the smaller Moroccan tiles together, the use of cement-based adhesives was not tested. Due to the weakly bonded cement powder on the tile back, the tiles required preparation by brushing, as mentioned above. Only once the encaustic main body was revealed, was the **ARDEX WA100** adhesive applied and tensile adhesion testing performed at 14 days.



Top-half: Appearance of the Moroccan Panel after cleaning with nylon brush. Cement powder removed successfully to reveal the encaustic tile body.

Lower-half: Appearance of the Moroccan Panel without cleaning. Clearly visible cement powder contamination present.

RESULTS

Moroccan Panel:

Tensile adhesive results with **ARDEX WA100** were acceptable, with no failure observed at the interface between the tile and adhesive.

CONCLUSION

All adhesive combinations provided satisfactory 14 day tensile results for the Moroccan Panel. Adequate adhesion for these tiles is based on the condition that prior to laying, all loose matter is first removed from rear face of the tiles.

Moroccan Panel:

Based on the presence of the epoxy adhesive on the rear of the Moroccan Panel, we restrict the adhesive suitability to **ARDEX WA100** only**.

***Note: Successful adhesion to the tile requires removal of all loose particulate material on the tile rear face prior to tiling.*

Suitable ARDEX grouts for grouting the Moroccan Panel are:-

1. **ARDEX EG15** Epoxy Grout
2. **ARDEX WA** Epoxy Grout
3. **ARDEX FG8** grout with or without **ARDEX Grout Booster**.
4. **ARDEX FSDD** grout with or without **ARDEX Grout Booster**
5. **ARDEX WJ50** grout with or without **ARDEX Grout Booster**

See Technical Datasheets for individual products for further information. Relevant Australian Standards and Codes apply.

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