Construction

Rugasol® MH

Concrete surface retarder for horizontal and vertical surfaces

Description

Rugasol® MH is a surface retarder used mainly for on site exposed aggregate work. Rugasol® MH surface retarder is used to expose aggregate on formed Portland cement based concrete surfaces, both vertical and horizontal.

Uses

Rugasol® MH provides an efficient, economical method of obtaining a rough bonding surface without the need of hacking, chipping or sandblasting.

It can be painted directly onto formwork for:

- Walls
- Ceilings
- Vertical construction joints
- Precast panel

Action

Rugasol® MH dries on the formwork to form a tough, water-insoluble, abrasion resistant film. It is not affected by light foot traffic or by light showers. Forms may be coated before or after erection. Reinforcing steel is placed as usual.

The depth of retardation depends upon the thickness of the coating, the time elapsed before the retarder is removed, the cement content and the quantity of water in the mix. The ambient temperature will also affect the depth of retardation.

Advantages

- It can provide a decorative architectural finish to precast or insitu concrete surfaces.
- Can be applied to most type of clean formwork such as steel, timber, plywood, etc.
- Can be used in conjunction with Rugasol® C to provide constant aggregate exposure to both vertical and horizontal surfaces.

Storage and Shelf life

Stored at temperatures between 5°C and 35°C in unopened original containers, protected from direct sunlight and frost, shelf life is at least one (1) year.

Instructions for Use

Application

Rugasol® MH is ready to use straight from the container. It should be stirred before use and must not be diluted. Rugasol® MH can be applied to any type of clean form. Apply a heavy coat with a brush or roller, and allow to dry (normally 2 to 4 hours). Brushes and equipment can be cleaned before the material hardens, using Sika Colma Cleaner. Mould oils should not be used on the forms. Coated surfaces should be protected from strong sunlight.

Exposed Aggregate

For optimum results forms should be removed as soon as possible after the concrete is poured. Normally two days in warm weather and up to 3 days in cold weather. If the forms must remain in place longer, use two or even three coats of Rugasol® MH to ensure deep penetration. A sample slab should be made first to see if the effect given is that which is required.

Paste Removal

Some of the soft cement paste will stick to the forms when shuttering is stripped. This can be removed, while still soft, by a light wire-brushing or with a high pressure water jet. Always clean off immediately after stripping the shutters as the soft cement paste soon hardens. The concrete should be kept moist and cured as usual. In special conditions ie. high cement contents, very hot weather etc., consult our Technical department. It is advisable to undertake a small test in all cases prior to use, as cements and conditions of use can change from site to site. When using untreated wood and porous forms for the first time we recommend a minimum of two coats of Rugasol® MH. This will impregnate the surface and aid in uniform exposure of the aggregates.

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Technical and Physical Data

Form	Solvent base emulsion
Colour	Pale red
Density (20°C)	1.05 kg/litre approx.
Flash Point	>27°C
Application temperature	10°C – 30°C
Depth of Etch	3 - 5mm approx.
Coverage	4 – 5 m^2/litre/coat

Handling Precautions

- Rugasol® MH, and Sika Colma Cleaner contain solvents and are flammable, keep away from sparks, flames, etc.
- Always keep the lid on Rugasol® MH containers when not in use.
- Keep containers out of reach of children.
- Avoid contact with the skin.
- Protective gloves and clothing are recommended when using this product.
- If in eyes, hold eyes open, flood with warm water and seek medical attention without delay.
- A full Material Safety Data Sheet is available from Sika on request.

Important Notification

The information, and, in particular, the recommendations relating to the application and end-use of Sika's products, are given in good faith based on Sika's current knowledge and experience of the products when properly stored, handled and applied under normal conditions. In practice, the differences in materials, substrates and actual site conditions are such that no warranty in respect of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, nor any liability arising out of any legal relationship whatsoever, can be inferred either from this information, or from any written recommendations, or from any other advice offered. The proprietary rights of third parties must be observed. All orders are accepted subject of our terms and conditions of sale. Users should always refer to the most recent issue of the Technical Data Sheet for the product concerned, copies of which will be supplied on request.

PLEASE CONSULT OUR TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

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