

# TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

## Tiling No.2 - Heated Screed

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### GENERAL

With any new screed time must be allowed for curing and drying. Screeds should be kept covered with waterproof sheeting for at least 7 days after laying to prevent drying out. During this period strength is gained and drying shrinkage delayed enabling the screed to better resist shrinkage stresses.

After this period, screeds should be subjected to continuous air drying for at least a further 2 weeks before tiling is started. **Note:** A longer period may be necessary in wet weather and when the floor is to be heated.

Where screeds are greater than 50mm thick they should be laid in layers of no more than 50mm thickness this is in order to facilitate good compaction. Information regarding drying times of screeds greater than 50mm and any other aspects can be obtained in BS8204.

A new heating system must have been trialled at a high temperature for a period of at least 48 hours in advance of the following preparation.

### PREPARATION

You must ensure that the heating is turned off at least 48 hours before any tiling work is carried out and not turned on until at least 24 hours after the work has been completed.

In cold conditions, if there is no other heating on site, keep the heating on at a low, steady temperature, i.e. 15°C. Again for 48 hours before tiling, during tiling and for 24 hours after the work has been completed.

After tiling, when the heating is turned on, ensure that the temperature is increased by no more than 5°C per 24 hours. This is to prevent delamination and cracking caused by thermal shock.

**Note:** Gypsum based 'Flowing Screeds' – There is a growth in the popularity of using flowing screeds when installing underfloor heating systems, in particular, screeds based on gypsum (anhydrite or alpha hemi-hydrate) rather than cement. While gypsum based screeds are suitable for tiling onto, there are a few extra watchpoints in their preparation:

- i) The screed should be dry (less than 0.5% moisture content measured by carbide bomb moisture meter).
- ii) Some screeds of this type suffer from a weak surface layer which must be mechanically removed before proceeding.
- iii) All gypsum based screeds should be primed as follows: first coat Acrylic Primer diluted 1:1 with water and allowed to dry; second coat Acrylic Primer applied neat; apply tile adhesive while second coat is tacky.

The information given in this technical sheet is based on both current development work and many years' field experience. Whilst every effort is made to ensure that the information is reliable we cannot accept responsibility for any work carried out with our materials where we have no direct control over methods of application, site conditions etc. Always read and familiarise yourself with the relevant product safety and technical datasheets before using any of our products.



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### FIXING METHOD & MATERIALS

With underfloor heating it is important that **Larsen Professional Flexible Fast Set** or **Larsen Professional Flexible CTA** is used.

**Larsen Flexible Floor Grout** or **Larsen Professional Stain Resistant Grouts** should be used. This will allow some movement in the normal service life when the heating is turned on full.

The method of fixing must be solid bed using the appropriate notched trowel. No voids should exist between the tile and substrate, minimum bed thickness 3mm.

When grouting a floor of this type it is prudent to leave a grout joint of 4mm to 5mm. DO NOT butt-joint into corners or retaining walls, proprietary movement joints should be used.

Consult product Technical Datasheets before use.

### MOVEMENT JOINTS

Proprietary movement joints should be used. Movement joints should be provided in accordance with BS 5385 Part 1:20 or BS 5385 Part 2:20 and their location should be decided at design stage.

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