



Performance Through
Technology and Service

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DATA SPECIFICATION

PS-E008.1 COATING MARBLE PLASTER SURFACES (MARBLE SHEEN) OF SWIMMING POOLS WITH EPOTEC

Introduction In ground concrete swimming pools are often coated with 'MARBLE PLASTER'. This is a plaster made of a white cement and a coarse marble aggregate, with very few fine particles.

With age the plaster surface is effected by the chemicals in the water and causes the following problems:

1. The cement is eroded away allowing the marble granules to dislodge and fall away.
2. The eroded surface becomes porous, allowing the chemicals and body fats to penetrate the plaster matrix.
3. The eroded surface picks up any dirt etc. from atmospheric contamination, and therefore with time the surface looks dirty and patchy.
4. The eroded surface has the potential to pick up algae etc. quickly if insufficient levels of chlorine are present. The surface is then a ready source of spore's etc, leading to rapid algae blooms.

The options to improve the surface are to: remove and re-plaster or to carefully prepare recoat with EPOTEC.

Obviously there are potential problems with the adhesion of the EPOTEC if the correct procedure is not followed.

Procedure

1. The total aged surface needs to be removed. This can be done by either using an angle grinder with a coarse disc (30 – 40 masonry) or carefully controlled grit blasting, or high pressure (2500 – 3500 psi) water blasting.

Refer to **PS-C002** Abrasive Blast Cleaning of Concrete and Painted Surfaces. Take particular care to ensure the blasting operator is controlled as it is very easy to destroy the fairness of the surfaces.

Remove all the debris.

2. Check all surfaces by tapping with a light hammer for 'drumming' areas. Chisel out the loose plaster till sound. Patch small areas with a 2 part epoxy mortar.

3. Evaluate the fairness of the sides/bottom and if necessary re-plaster badly eroded areas with conventional sand cement plaster.

4. Acid wash all surfaces. Refer to **PS-C001** Acid Etching of Concrete with Hydrochloric Acid.

5. Water blast the surface with a medium pressure machine.

6. Allow to dry.

7. The surface is ready for application of two coats minimum of EPOTEC. (Note: The first coat is thinned as follows: 200 mls of EPOTEC thinner per 3 kg EPOTEC pack).

Refer to **PS-E002** Coating a Concrete Surface with EPOTEC High Build Epoxy Paint.

ISSUE NO: 01
ISSUE DATE: 12-11-05