

## TECHNICAL BULLETIN – TB164

### INCONTINENCE BARRIERS AND ADHESIVE FOR CONCRETE FLOORS IN HEALTH CARE INSTITUTIONS

Date, Friday, 19 May 2017

#### INTRODUCTION & SCOPE

A common requirement in aged care facilities is a cleaning and urine resistance sealer for concrete floors under carpet and similar pervious floor coverings. The sealer needs to be low maintenance and be compatible with direct bond and pressure sensitive carpet adhesives.

More recently the same requirement has been requested for resilient flooring which is more complex system, but can also be delivered.

ARDEX can offer a number of solutions to this situation based around a penetrative sealer and the other a film forming two part epoxy which can also act as a moisture barrier.

#### FILM FORMING SEALER

The system based on ARDEX WPM300 Hydrepoxy is another option for sealing the floor to prevent penetration of spilled liquids. This product is not penetrative but forms a pale grey coating on the subfloor surface.

For textile floor coverings, one coat applied at 3m<sup>2</sup>/litre (0.15mm dry film thickness) will provide a basic seal for the substrate.

Two coats of WPM300 with a final dry film thickness of 0.3mm is a moisture barrier and provides resistance to rising damp or subfloor moisture as well as sealing the floor surface from above.

When carpet is to be laid direct onto the WPM300 surface care must be taken not to cut or damage the coating during carpet laying operations.

However, it should be noted that when water based resilient flooring adhesives are applied over non-porous surfaces such as WPM300, the adhesives are likely to display slow drying, which can create issues with sheet vinyl flooring such as blistering. Also the surface finish of the WPM300 is not suitable for direct installation of resilient or linoleum type flooring so the application of a smoothing cement is required.

#### SURFACE SMOOTHING

Where the subfloor requires a combination of moisture suppression and smoothing, the ARDEX Moisture Barrier system as described in ARDEX Technical Bulletin TB006 or TB192 shall be installed. Where the concrete surface only needs smoothing an ARDEX smoothing cement which can be applied 2-3mm thick (e.g. ARDEX K15, K11 or K12).

In both cases the smoothing cement shall be sealed with ARDEX WPM300 at a rate of 3m<sup>2</sup>/litre with one to two coats.

#### ADHESIVES FOR FLOORING

Where the adhesives are to be applied over the WPM300 they must be compatible with a water based amide epoxy coating.

The recommended ARDEX flooring adhesives are;

Carpet and textile floor coverings – ARDEX AF266 carpet adhesive

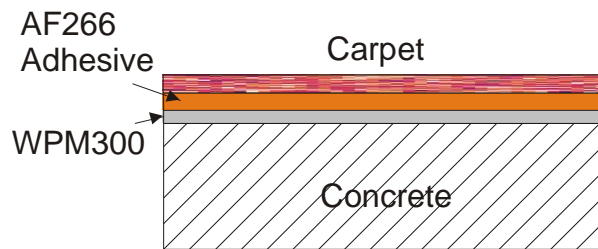
Rubber flooring and heavy duty vinyl – ARDEX AF545 epoxy adhesive

Vinyl planks – ARDEX AF142 fast grab adhesive



VCT flooring and vinyl backed carpet tiles – ARDEX AF143 pressure sensitive adhesive

Welded sheet vinyl flooring – ARDEX AF172 or AF178 vinyl adhesive.



Case 1 – Use of WPM300 as incontinence barrier with carpet floor coverings (no smoothing cements)

Depending on the 'show through' properties of the rubber flooring, it may be possible to apply ARDEX AF545 epoxy adhesive direct to the WPM300 on the concrete base surface.

**IMPORTANT**

This Technical Bulletin provides guideline information only and is not intended to be interpreted as a general specification for the application/installation of the products described. Since each project potentially differs in exposure/condition specific recommendations may vary from the information contained herein. For recommendations for specific applications/installations contact your nearest ARDEX Australia Office.

**DISCLAIMER**

The information presented in this Technical Bulletin is to the best of our knowledge true and accurate. No warranty is implied or given as to its completeness or accuracy in describing the performance or suitability of a product for a particular application. Users are asked to check that the literature in their possession is the latest issue.

**REASON FOR REVISION**

Removal of ARD AF163 and AF164. Addition of A172 and AF178

**REVIEW PERIOD**

36 months from date of issue

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