NO. 342-C

DATA SHEET

Master Format: 03 05 00

OCTOBER 2025
(Supersedes March 2025)

TOP-STOP™ CED

Controlled Etch Depth Concrete Surface Retarder

DESCRIPTION

TOP-STOP CED is a water-based, spray-applied, water-soluble concrete surface retarder that provides a variable etch exposure. The product is designed to slow the set of surface mortar in concrete to expose the aggregate. It temporarily halts the set at the surface while the concrete below the surface cures normally. TOP-STOP CED is easy to use, producing beautiful exposed aggregate concrete flatwork with consistent results. TOP-STOP CED is nonflammable and VOC-compliant. In addition, concrete surfaces with TOP-STOP CED applied do not need to be covered with plastic to prevent drying out of the surface. Also, the product provides exact control over how deep the surface etch penetrates, providing 12 depths of etch. Each depth is color coded so penetration levels are exact and can be measured.

USES

TOP-STOP CED may be used to produce an architectural finish on concrete slabs by exposing the natural color and texture of the aggregate. With the controlled etch depth, the depth of the concrete that is removed from the top is controlled. The deeper the depth, the more aggregate is exposed. The amount of exposed aggregate shown gives each depth layer a different aesthetic look, allowing the user to control the visual of the surface. TOP-STOP CED exposes the aggregate on floor slabs, sidewalks, tilt-up and precast panels, or any normal horizontal concrete application. Some TOP-STOP CED grades produce a roughened bonding surfaces for subsequent concrete toppings.

FEATURES/BENEFITS

- Architectural-quality appearance with original color and texture of the aggregate without sandblasting.
- No need for plastic or wet burlap covering to protect the surface.
- Twelve different etch levels provide the exact aesthetic appearance the client desires.
- Etch levels are color coded for easy measuring and visibility.
- Easy, economical removal of the concrete surface without laborious chipping or blasting required.
- Easy to use.
- Less supervision of field personnel.
- No expensive equipment required.
- Uniform coverage results in uniform aggregate exposure; consistent results.
- Easy water cleanup.
- VOC compliant

PACKAGING

5 Gallon (18.93 L) Pails

COVERAGE

Approximately 250 - 300 ft.^{2}/gal (6.13m^2/L - 7.36 m^2/L. Coverage is approximate and may vary depending on surface finish/texture, concrete condition, climatic conditions, etc. Always apply to a test area first to determine actual coverage rate before full-scale application.

SHELF LIFE

When stored indoors in original, unopened containers at temperatures between 40° - 90° F (4° - 32° C), optimum performance and best use is obtained within two years of date of manufacture.

SPECIFICATIONS/STANDARDS

- Complies with all current federal, state, and local maximum allowable VOC requirements, including U.S. EPA, SCAQMD, and OTC.

TECHNICAL DATA

VOC Content: <10 g/L

APPLICATION

Surface Preparation ... Protect all curbs, borders, adjacent stones, pavers, etc

CONTINUED ON REVERSE SIDE ...

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Mixing ... Material must be mixed thoroughly before using.

Application Method ... Uniformly apply TOP-STOP CED to the surface of wet concrete after final finishing. Use a low-pressure sprayer, preferably plastic, to ensure even coverage. Apply enough material to create a consistent, opaque hiding coat. Avoid applying too little, as insufficient coverage may affect performance.

Removal ... TOP-STOP CED should be removed once the concrete has sufficiently hardened, which is typically between 5 to 12 hours after initial placement of the concrete. In warmer weather, it's recommended to remove the material on the same day as placement of the concrete. In cooler temperatures, removal of the top layer can be done the following day. Exact timing for top-layer removal should be based on project-specific testing and jobsite samples.

For top-layer removal, use running water with a push broom, high-pressure washing, or a rotary buffer with a bristle attachment and water to clean the surface.

Curing & Sealing ... Curing and sealing the exposed aggregate surface is always recommended for longevity and aesthetics once TOP-STOP CED has been removed. The EXPO-GLOSS series, DECRA-SEAL series, or CS-309 series from W. R. MEADOWS are recommended and compatible. For interior applications or areas with stringent VOC regulations, the VOCOMP series or DECRA-SEAL W/B is recommended and compatible.

LIMITATIONS/PRECAUTIONS

Keep from freezing. Apply only on freshly poured concrete. A test patch under exact job conditions and specific mix design is recommended. TOP-STOP CED will only slow hydration at the surface once applied. However, it will not reverse any hydration prior to its application. Do not apply curing compound or curing aids over TOP-STOP CED. During extreme hot and windy weather conditions, covering the surface with TOP-STOP CED might be beneficial to maintain moisture. Do not wait longer than 24 hours for top-layer removal. After removal of the top layer, be sure to dispose of the slurry in compliance with EPA guidelines and state-specific environmental regulations.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Direct contact may result in mild irritation. Refer to Safety Data Sheet for complete health and safety information.

TOP-STOP CED GRADE GUIDE

CED-01 WHITE Exposure Depth - Light Acid Wash	**CED-75 BLUE** Exposure Depth - 1/8" (3.18 mm) AGG. Exposure - 1/8" - 3/8" (3.2 - 9.5 mm)
CED-03 VIOLET Exposure Depth - Acid Wash	**CED-100 GRAY** Exposure Depth - 5/32" (3.97 mm) AGG. Exposure - 3/8" - 1/2" (9.5 - 12.7 mm)
CED-05 LIGHT BLUE Exposure Depth - Sandblast	**CED-125 PINK** Exposure Depth - 3/16" (4.76 mm) AGG. Exposure - 3/8" - 5/8" (9.5 - 15.9 mm)
CED-15 YELLOW Exposure Depth - 1/32" (0.8 mm) AGG. Exposure - 1/8" - 1/4" (3.2 - 6.4 mm)	**CED-150 GREEN** Exposure Depth - 7/32" (5.56 mm) AGG. Exposure - 3/8" - 5/8" (9.5 - 15.9 mm)
CED-25 BEIGE Exposure Depth - 1/16" (1.59 mm) AGG. Exposure - 1/8" - 1/4" (3.2 - 6.4 mm)	**CED-200 SALMON** Exposure Depth - 1/4" (6.35 mm) AGG. Exposure - 5/8" - 1" (15.9 - 25.4 mm)
CED-50 LIGHT GREEN Exposure Depth - 3/32" (2.38 mm) AGG. Exposure - 1/8" - 3/8" (3.2 - 9.5 mm)	**CED-250 ORANGE** Exposure Depth - 9/32" (7.14 mm) AGG. Exposure - 1" - 1 1/2" (25.4 - 38.1mm)

Exposure Depth based on 564 lbs/yd3 (355 kg/m3) of cement or 6 sack mix