

1. METHOD STATEMENT

BULKING UP LEVELiTe

The bulking up of LEVELiTe is undertaken where the regular application of a self-levelling compound to the thickness exceeding say 15mm is prohibitive from a cost perspective, and where the installation of a regular sand/cement screed will result in serious time delays due to the slow drying process of the screed. The bulking up process is a two-step process, which enables the installation of vinyl flooring within 24 hours at a reduced cost.

1.1 PREPARATION

Prior to applying the bulked-up system, it is important to determine that the substrate onto which it is to be applied is sound. (Cracks are often an indication of delamination between the slab and screed. Tap the screed at regular intervals and listen for hollow sounds or changes in pitch.) This identifies potential hollow spots.

The substrate should not be friable or powdery. If the substrate is sound, but slightly (not excessively dusty), this can be improved by applying iTeSLURRY to the surface and allowed to dry before commencing with priming.

Should the screed not be sound, remove all friable or loose materials until a sound base is obtained.

Determine Screed Moisture Levels – Measure the screed moisture levels using appropriate, reliable test equipment to check that the moisture levels are below the tolerances of the floor covering to be installed. (SANS 10070 code of practice stipulates that if the screed moisture exceeds 3% moisture content (70% RH), then a moisture primer (barrier) should be applied).

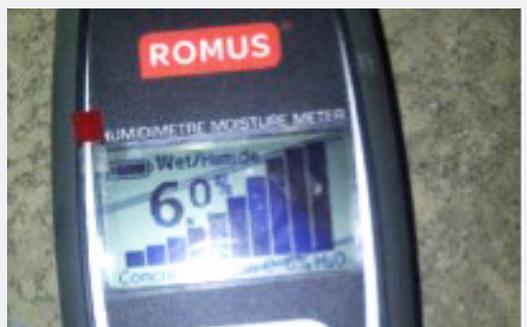


Fig 01: Moisture Testing

If the screed moisture is higher than permitted, apply VAPORiTe +PLUS water-based epoxy moisture barrier in accordance with the Data Sheet for VAPORiTe +PLUS, and once cured, apply iTe SLURRY with a mohair roller, to promote adhesion.



Fig 01: VAPORiTe+PLUS first coat

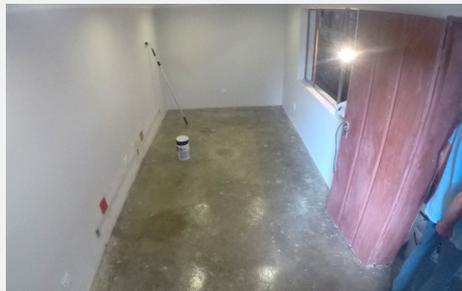


Fig 02: VAPORiTe+PLUS dry 2nd coat



Fig 03: iTe SLURRY over VAPORiTe+PLUS

The Bulking-up process entails applying a bulked material layer to build the level up to a point where a second, conventional layer of LEVELiTe is added to achieve the final thickness allowing for the thickness of the floor covering to be installed.

Depending on the size of the area to be bulked-up, two methods can be used to set out the depth of the bulking to be done.

Large Areas:

At regular intervals drill holes to hold rebar vertically. The intervals can be say at 1m squares, until the entire surface to be bulked up is marked out. Use a fast setting epoxy adhesive to hold the bars in place vertically. Using a laser level, mark the rebar rods at the desired height below the final level to be achieved. (Final floor level minus floor covering thickness minus say 3mm self-levelled LEVELiTe application). Cut the rebar off at these marked heights.

Smaller Areas:

Set up the laser level in the recess, determine the level to be achieved with bulking up, or the level below the final floor surface as above, and apply a chalk line to the side walls of the recess.

1.2 APPLICATION

Ensure that the surface of the recess is dry. (If Moisture Barrier has been applied, ensure that it has set)

Prime the surface with BONDiTe until the screed surface and walls are covered properly. Allow to dry.

Fill the recess with 6 to 8mm washed stone, creating a level surface to the level of the rods, or wall markings.



Fig 04: Stone spread in area to be filled



Fig 05: Levelled stone spread

LEVELiTe[®]

SELF-LEVELLING SCREED

Mix LEVELiTe as per the data sheet, and pour the mixed compound into the stone. Use a garden rake spade or trowel to mix the compound with the aggregate (stone) ensuring that the aggregate is properly coated and settles on the substrate. Maintain the desired level, compacting with a straight edge, so that any aggregate does not protrude excessively.



Fig 06: Trolling in LEVELiTe. Bulked up coat.



Fig 07: Finished bulked up coat

Repeat this process until the entire recess is filled.

Due to the high volume of LEVELiTe in this application, it will tend to set faster than normal. It is important to work fast, and maintain a constant flow of product to be integrated with the aggregate.

Allow the bulked-up mix to cure for at least 2 hours, and ensure that it is sound enough to be walked on.

Apply BONDiTe primer liberally to the bulked-up surface and allow it to dry. (During drying, it will change colour from white to clear, when it is finally dry).

Mix and apply the self-levelling layer of LEVELiTe as per normal (see technical data sheets) to the height ready for installation of floor covering, and allow it to cure till the next day, ready for installation of the flooring.



Fig 08: Final LEVELiTe coat

Materials Calculation:

Stone 6 – 8mm washed stone:
+/- 15,5Kg per m² per 10mm thickness

LEVELiTe For Bulking

F30 = 1,5Kg per m² per 1mm thickness x 0,6

Thereafter the final topping of **LEVELiTe** at the rate of 1,5 Kg per m² per 1mm thickness.