

Chemind Waterproofing News Bulletin

Tiles or Topping Over Chemind Liquid Membranes

Chemind is frequently asked for advice on laying tiles over its membranes including Aquagard M PU grades, Newflex water-based PU grades and Chemspray. There are essentially two scenarios which are detailed below.

Direct Glue Fixing

Chemind manufactures Chem-Fix adhesives to be used for direct glue fixing to its membranes:

- Chem-Fix Standard – used over Newflex membrane grades
- Chem-Fix Super – used over all Chemind liquid membranes including Aquagard M polyurethane, Newflex water-based PU and Chemspray polyurea systems

As a general rule:

- Most quality polymer modified cement based adhesives can be applied to Newflex water-based PU grades without problem. It is advisable for the tiler to verify suitability with the adhesive manufacturer.
- To provide a passive surface for tiling on Aquagard M polyurethane and Chemspray polyurea grades, we recommend that after waterproof membrane installation is completed a 100 micron thick layer of the membrane (approx 10m²/litre) be applied and while wet, broadcast to excess with clean, dry, medium grade sand. Excess sand should be removed after curing and prior to tiling.

NOTE: Chemind has no objection to the use of quality adhesives and bonding agents over its membranes, but selection and suitability must be verified by the manufacturer.

Installation of Tile Bed or Topping

Topping and tile bed may be laid directly onto the waterproof membrane with due consideration given to requirements for mix-design, reinforcement, slip-sheet and expansion joints.

As a general rule:

- Areas of topping in excess of 10m² should be laid over a 0.2mm polyethylene slip-sheet.
- If topping or bed is to be laid directly onto waterproof membrane, design considerations are essential.
All works should be carried out fully in accordance with AS3959 Part 1. Specific attention is drawn to the need for 10-12mm expansion joints which are:
 - a) To be full depth of bed/adhesive/tile layer, above the membrane.
 - b) To be filled full depth with compressible polyethylene foam joint filler similar to "Ableflex" or compressible polyethylene foam joint filler sealed with a flexible polyurethane joint sealant (10-12mm x 10-12mm) such as Chemind Chemflex.
 - c) 3.5m (maximum) centres in all directions.
 - d) Around penetrations, posts, partions etc and all perimeters, abutting walls, parapets etc.
- As an industry standard, a cementitious substrate (structural slab or tile bed to falls) to receive a waterproof membrane should be
 - a minimum 25 MPa
 - fabric reinforced
 - well compacted and wood float finished

If you have any query regarding the correct use or selection of Chemind membrane, contact your representative or our Technical Department on 1800 334 444.

