

Dave's Diary

Davco



Ultrabond is the foundation of a new Prestigious Showroom

The new prestigious car showroom of John Hughes Volkswagen in Victoria Park, Perth, has been built upon Davco's Ultrabond – a two part flexible bond enhancer used for difficult surfaces.

The fast curing time of Ultrabond (6-8 hours at 20°C) enabled the tiling to be done quickly and efficiently, allowing John Hughes Volkswagen dealership to return to business at a faster timeframe.

David Mortimer, Operations Manager of City Tile Contractors explains that "Ultrabond was the ideal product because of its unique benefit of allowing tiling to be carried out straight over the old contaminated surface."



David added "Without Ultrabond it would have been necessary to machine sand to try to remove the old adhesive. It was a much cleaner process and a lot less expensive. You can easily imagine just how important it would be to eliminate dust at such a sensitive site."

A total professional job was also achieved with Lanko 133 floor leveller when it was used to level part of the showroom prior to tiling. The tiles were then fixed using Davco SE-7 and Davelastic.

Davco maintains their leadership through continuous research and ongoing product development.

Scope of work: 700m² showroom floor
John Hughes Volkswagen

Products used: Davco Ultrabond
Lanko Pro Level 133
Davco SE-7
Davelastic

Tiling Contractor: City Tile Contractors, WA

If you have a project utilising any of Davco's products and would like it featured in our next newsletter please send the details to marketing@davco.com.au.

Dave's Diary has been on hiatus for several months, but is now back in action and keener than ever. We hope you find the content informative and useful.

Kind regards,

Dave

Davco Dave.

In This Issue

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- The New Adhesive Standards
- Davco Sponsor National Worldskills
- Davco Plant Upgrade



Dear Dave



Q: My Tile adhesive has been hardening quicker than usual – what's wrong?

A: Most adhesives harden due to chemical reactions that are influenced by temperature. Higher temperatures lead to faster reaction times. This is why adhesives take longer to go off in cold weather!

So what can you do to help?

- Keep mixed batches in the shade or cooler area
- Avoid tiling hot substrates
- Mix batches when they are needed and not too far ahead
- Mix smaller batches
- Trowel out smaller areas at a time
- Place tiles as soon as possible after applying adhesive

There are some other things you can do that may not seem as obvious:

- Keep the materials cool
- Be aware of the temperature of the surface
- Use cool or cold water when preparing the batch

Remember – Always prime the

surface! For most surfaces this means using Ultraprime. If you don't, the surface can suck the water out of the adhesive and cause it to become weak and brittle. In hot weather, it is also advisable to dampen down the surface prior to priming.

Remember that the powder and liquid/water can take a few hours to cool down if they have been in hot areas so give them time to cool.

What if you have taken the above precautions and the material has still hardened too quickly?

NEVER add more water! Adding water at this stage or using more water than recommended will make the adhesive weak. Give it a quick stir and if it doesn't come right then don't use it.

How can you keep the material cool?

Put your powder in the shade or take it off the hot slab. For mixed batches try slow the chemical reaction by keeping it cool. Make an on-site waterbath and put the bucket into it (but take care not to let water into the mixed product!) Fill a wheelbarrow or eski with cool water or use those ice bricks from the freezer.

Most pot life and open times are quoted for material at 20°C. The hotter they are the shorter the times. Never tile in ambient conditions above 35°C and make note of the surface temperature.

Use these tips, and remember that if you have any problems or questions call our Technical Advisory line on 1800 653 347.

Happy tiling and enjoy your summer!

Dave

Do you have a question for Dave? Or maybe some feedback on Dave's Diary? You can contact Dave via email marketing@davco.com.au, fax to (02) 9725 5551.

Product Update

K10 Plus

Davco's philosophy of product innovation is reflected in the K10 Plus – a flexible, single pack water based polyurethane waterproofing membrane, which is capable of drying in approximately 6 – 8 hours at 20°C, depending on the number of coats required. K10 Plus has 400% plus elongation, which means it is certified as a Class III membrane (highest category) in accordance with AS/NZS4858:2004.

✓ Trafficable, anti-fracture

✓ UV resistant

✓ Single Pack – no reinforcing required

✓ Meets the requirement of AS/NZS 4858:2004 Wet Area Membranes

K10 Plus is available in 4L and 20L.



Staff Corner

Irene Cassar

Irene joined Davco as the Credit Controller in July 2002 and is based at Wetherill Park.

Irene is a member of the Institute of Credit Management. She has a wealth of knowledge in the construction and adhesive industries.



Tiling Champion heads to Helsinki

In Issue 5 - Winter 2004 Davco was proud to be the sponsor of the Worldskills competition. We are pleased to announce that Anthony Micari from Brisbane was awarded the gold medal for the Wall and Floor Tiling category in the "Try a Trade" segment. We caught up with Anthony to see how things are unfolding for him as he prepares for the National Worldskills in Helsinki, Finland. Pictured below, Anthony receives a cheque from Davco employees.



1. How does it feel to be awarded / named the best tiler in Australia?

It has been a great honour! Without the patience of Ron Barret (Anthony's Teacher at Macquarie College), my Father Leo Micari who I am employed by and CLASSIC TILES who have provided us with work, I probably wouldn't have been able to achieve what I've achieved in these past four years.

2. What has been the highlight of your career so far?

This would probably have to be the biggest highlight of my career so far, going to Helsinki to compete against 17 different countries, whilst representing Australia in my trade. It's pretty exciting stuff.

3. Where do you see yourself in 5 years time?

I would hope to open my own Tiling Company. I would employ my father as my supervisor so at least he would be able to oversee the job on my behalf. I would also employ apprentices to give them the same opportunity that I got.

4. Do you have any advice for the younger generation about career choice?

What ever career path you decide to go with, make sure that you enjoy what you're doing because that is when you perform at your best! Stand back, appreciate and feel good about what you have achieved, it's a feeling that money can never buy! Its called personal satisfaction.

Davco Invests in the future



A recent upgrade to Davco's plant at Wetherill Park was implemented, which consolidated the company's manufacturing activities. The Davco plant is vertically integrated, comprising of ten silos, two high speed mixers and two robotic palletisers. Construction of the plant was carried out in three separate stages over two years to avoid disruption to product distribution to customers.

The decision and priority of this upgrade was to increase capacity and enable Davco to meet the growth for the company's expanding product range. This demand is being fuelled by Davco's strategy to refine existing brands, including development of new products.

In addition to providing Davco greater capacity for the launch of new products, the Wetherill Park plant will also enable the company to maintain its status as an environmentally conscious manufacturer. By replacing its aging powders line, refining the manufacturing process, and incorporating state of the art dust extractors, this allowed Davco to achieve tighter environmental and quality controls, resulting in less wastage. Efficiencies have been increased with gravity feed production line, also resulting in less power consumption and an automated operation in place using a

New Product

F1 Express

Davco's commitment to continual product development has resulted in the creation of the new Davco F1 Express, a one-part, rapid set, polymer modified, flexible tile adhesive.

- ✓ C1S2E classification
- ✓ Rapid Set



- ✓ High Flexibility
- ✓ Excellent Adhesion

F1 Express is available in



Demystifying the Adhesive Standards

The Australian adhesives industry has been operating under the auspices of AS2358 since 1990. This is a standard which was based on the British System, but is 15 years old, and in need of review and update.

This new standard covers both adhesives and grouts. It categorises adhesives into three groups – these are Cementitious (C), Dispersion (D), and Reaction Resin (R). Within each of these three categories, products are further differentiated by their properties – deformation (flexibility), open time, setting speed, and non-slump. The standard then allows for even further segmentation within these groups, by categorising them as normal and premium products. For grouts, it categorises them into groups – these are Cementitious (CG) and Reaction Resin (RG). Within each of these two categories, products are further differentiated by their properties – abrasion resistance, flexural strength, compressive strength, shrinkage and water absorption. The standard then allows for even further segmentation within these groups, by characterising them as normal and premium products.

This standard brings forth a new era for the industry. It sets new, higher standards which adhesives need to meet, which can only further the reputation of tiling installations in comparison to meet other floor coverings. It forces adhesive manufacturers to be more transparent with test results, and allows for better comparison to be drawn between adhesive systems.

The accompanying tables detail the properties and characteristics of the different adhesives.

For further details on the new standard, and for a complete overview of the Davco adhesive range, and how they all perform to this standard, call our Toll Free Advisory line on 1800 653 347 or email us at marketing@davco.com.au



Cementitious Adhesives (C)	
Category	Characteristics & Requirements
C1	Normal Setting Adhesive Fundamental Characteristics, Tensile Strength measured after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 days room temperature (RT) cure • 7 days RT cure + 21 days water soak • 14 days RT cure + 14 days cure at 70°C • Freeze Thaw cycling • All ≥ 0.5 MPa • Tensile strength after 20 min open time – ≥ 0.5 MPa
C2	Improved Setting Adhesive Tensile Strength measured after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 28 days room temperature (RT) cure • 7 days RT cure + 21 days water soak • 14 days RT cure + 14 days cure at 70°C • Freeze Thaw cycling • All ≥ 1.0 MPa
Optional Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F – Fast Setting – (≥ 0.5 MPa after 24 hours RT cure) • E – Extended Open Time (30 minutes RT cure) • T – Slip Resistance – ≥ 0.5 mm • S – Transverse Deformation (Flexibility) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> S1 – ≥ 2.5 mm < 5 mm S2 – ≥ 5 mm

Dispersion Adhesives (D)	
Category	Characteristics & Requirements
D1	Normal Setting Adhesive Fundamental Characteristics, Shear Strength measured after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 days room temperature (RT) cure • 14 days RT cure + 14 days cure at 70°C • All ≥ 1.0 MPa • Tensile strength after 20 min open time – ≥ 0.5 MPa
D2	Improved Setting Adhesive Tensile Strength measured after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 21 days RT cure + 7 days water soak – ≥ 0.5 MPa • 14 days RT cure + 14 days cure at 70°C – ≥ 1.0 MPa
Optional Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • F – Fast Setting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 days RT cure + 7 days water soak – ≥ 0.5 MPa 14 days RT cure + 14 days cure at 70°C – ≥ 1.0 MPa • E – Extended Open Time (30 minutes RT cure) • T – Slip Resistance – ≤ 0.5 mm

Reaction Resin Adhesives (R)	
Category	Characteristics & Requirements
R1	Normal Setting Adhesive Fundamental Characteristics, Shear Strength measured after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 days room temperature (RT) cure • 7 days RT cure + 7 days water soak • All ≥ 2.0 MPa • Tensile strength after 20 min open time – ≥ 0.5 MPa
R2	Improved Setting Adhesive Shear Strength measured after: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thermal Shock – ≥ 20. MPa
Optional Characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T – Slip Resistance – ≥ 0.5 mm