



# **Planning for Concrete Curing**

*Most specifications give us an option to chemically cure OR Wet/Moist cure the concrete.*

**Generally, it is the project's benefit that roofing, floor covering, or coating is to be installed to wet/moist cure the concrete for many reasons...**

## **Why is a curing compound or dissipating compound is bad for flooring?**

- Curing compounds leave a film on the concrete surface that interfere with the adhesion of topping materials.
- **Curing compounds are dependent on the thickness of the application. Also, these compounds may remain on the surface much longer than necessary for curing, thus preventing internal moisture from getting out of the slab, creating moisture problems.**
- Almost all flooring leveling & flooring manufacturers require the concrete to be free of curing compounds.
- Floor underlayments such as Ardex© and Tile mortar/mastic will not bond to most curing products.
- "Dissipating" compounds depends on the thickness and amount of sunlight & traffic compounds receive, which is typically not enough to remove the chemical.
- Relying on oxidation (UV light) is not a feasible alternative unless it is exterior concrete construction that is exposed to the sun (mostly in the summer) for an extended period of time.
- Shot blasting is the best way to effectively remove a curing compound (*grinding doesn't work well*).

***The quickest and best way to try and achieve a concrete moisture level that is acceptable to a roofing, flooring, or coating material is to wet/moist cure the slab for 5-7 days by installing plastic, burlap, or curing blanket on the concrete quickly after finishing (*hard trowel finishing is not recommended in these cases*).***

*(Work can occur on the plastic via a safe working surface such as plywood or similar – work with our safety department on the most appropriate & safe means of accomplishing your work)*

**Always request wet/moist curing when we have a roof, flooring, or coating...otherwise, we will likely need to shot blast the concrete at ±\$1-5/SF, to remove the curing compound and possible add a moisture mitigation membrane prior to the flooring or coating installation.**



**When buying out the subcontractor, it is in the Project's best interest to make sure that they have moist/wet curing when we are installing roofing, flooring, or coatings.**

**Plan your schedule to accommodate the required concrete curing time**