



## Floor Covering Preparation

The preparation of Gyvlon screeds ready for floor coverings can be split into four areas:

- **Sanding**
- **Drying and moisture testing**
- **UFH Commissioning**
- **Priming**

### Sanding

Gyvlon screeds are available in both a traditional mix which can produce a surface laitance and a Low Laitance which uses a special additive to prevent laitance forming.

Gyvlon screeds will require a surface sanding prior to any adhered floor coverings, this is to be carried out immediately prior to the floor finish application. This is to remove any surface contamination that may have occurred and create a surface key prior to priming and bonding.

NB If using a traditional mix it is advisable to either surface sand or stiff bristle brush after 7-10 days to remove loose surface laitance, this will improve drying performance, the screed will then be sanded prior to cover if required.

Sanding should be carried out using an orbital sanding machine with integrated vacuum. This should be fitted with a 60 grit sand paper or carborundum disc.

NB. Sanding is to remove laitance/surface contamination and create a surface key it is not to remove screed depth.

### Moisture Testing

As with all screeds, in good conditions Gyvlon has a natural drying time of 1mm per day up to 40mm and 0.5mm after that, drying times can be greatly affected by site conditions so it is advised that the atmosphere is kept as warm and dry as possible. Commissioning the UFH and/or using dehumidifiers can greatly improve the figures above, prior to coverings the screed moisture must be tested using either a hair hygrometer, carbide bomb or oven test and be below 75% RH (0.5% Moisture).

NB: It may be possible to use Gypsum based products at 87% RH (1.5% Moisture), manufacturers must be consulted.

*(Please refer to the Gyvlon 'Drying Screed' Datasheet)*

### Under floor Heating Commissioning

Where under floor heating is used it must be commissioned and run prior to floor coverings regardless of how dry the screed maybe, this is in line with CFA, TTA, Vinyl/Tile Manufacturers and UHMA guidelines.

This process forces additional moisture from the screed and conditions it to thermal movement prior to coverings, typically the commissioning cycle is 21 days and can be started as early as 7 days with Gyvlon screeds.

The guidelines state that the underfloor heating should be: -

- Commissioned at ambient floor temperatures, approx 18 degrees (or lowest manifold temperature).
- This temperature should be maintained for 24 hours, then raised by up to 5 degrees per 24 hours thereafter until the optimum running temperature is reached (Maximum 50 degrees).
- This should then be maintained for 7 days prior to the temperature being reduced by 5 degrees per day back to the starting point.
- The system can be turned off and allowed to cool for 48 hours prior to moisture testing by digital hygrometer



# Floor Covering Preparation

## Priming

As with all screeds Gyvlon will require priming prior to application of floor coverings for two reasons:

- 1) To seal the porous surface to prevent suction of moisture from the adhesive or smoothing compound.
- 2) To form a barrier between the screed and any cement based smoothing compound or adhesive that may be used. (Gypsum based adhesive and smoothing compounds are also available)

Primers are to be either Acrylic dispersion or Water based epoxy and generally perform best when used as a two coat system. However the manufacturers of these primers should be consulted for advice prior to use.

NB In our experience neoprene or SBR's are not suitable primers for Gyvlon screeds.

*(Please refer to 'Post Installation Products')*

## Use of DPM's with Gyvlon Screed

If necessary surface applied liquid DPM's can be used under the following conditions

- Gyvlon has been installed for over 28 days
- Moisture level be below 87% RH (1.5% Moisture)
- No Underfloor heating

NB. Installation advice should be sought from DPM manufacturer.