GUIDE METHOD STATEMENT
MICROTOPPING

DESCRIPTION
Two-component polymer concrete system suitable for decorative finishes (2-3 mm thick) for interiors and exteriors, floors or walls. Ideal Work Microtopping is perfect for renewing worn concrete, tiled or self-levelling floors and transforms them into decorative surfaces with great aesthetic impact. Protective treatment with Ideal Sealer, Ideal FX Eco, Ideal PU78 or Ideal PU WB type resin. Possible application of Ideal Cera or Easy wax acrylic wax.

METHOD OF APPLICATION
- Adequate preparation of the surfaces by polishing. It is vital to consult the technical sheet.
- Optional: application of three-component BARRIERA-CEM primer – steam barrier (required on damp bases or materials other than concrete) or EXPOXY-COAT.
- Application of the first coat of MICROTOPPING BASE COAT
- When the surface is dry, sand and remove dust with suction
- Application of the second coat of MICROTOPPING BASE COAT
- When the surface is dry, sand and remove dust with suction
- Application of the first coat of MICROTOPPING FINISH COAT
- When the surface is dry, sand and remove dust with suction
- Optional: application of subsequent coats of MICROTOPPING FINISH COAT until the desired finish is obtained
- When the surface is dry, sand, remove dust with suction and wash the surfaces

PROTECTIVE TREATMENT
The choice of protection is very important and depends on the traffic and use the floor must sustain. In the case of standard use, the application of a protective resin like Ideal Sealer, Ideal FX Eco or Ideal PU78, Ideal PU WB is recommended. Consult the technical sheets or Ideal Work technical personnel for further information.

COLOURING
Ideal Work Microtopping can be coloured with paste using Color Pack-C. Alternatively, Ideal Acid Stains can be used. Consult the technical sheets for further information.

SAMPLING
The creation of an Ideal Work Microtopping sample is recommended to allow the Work Director to assess whether the aesthetic effect and the product specifications correspond to expectations. Once the sample has been approved, the full floor can be constructed.

IMPORTANT
Consult the technical sheet before use. Product intended for professional use. For perfect setting and to attain the maximum resistance, the treatment requires around 10-15 days. For a well-made floor, it is recommended to use only IDEAL WORK products and qualified installers. Clean water and electricity are required on a building site.
“Microtopping” flooring is applied manually and it must therefore be understood and accepted that there may be slight unevenness and minor defects due to the fact of working with a "semi-plastic" material. Microtopping is a handmade product, unique and not mass-produced, and so any differences and/or the hues of colours and/or colour concentration must be seen as a valuable element of the work, not an imperfection.

Microtopping surfaces subject to concentrated, sharp loads (chairs, furniture, high heels etc..) may become marked and scratched. In fact, while having excellent resistance performance, they behave in the same way as a wooden floor and should be regarded as such.

Some precautions may prove very useful in keeping the floor in a good condition: a) provide a doormat at the entry to the house that can retain dust, sand and abrasive particles b) sweep or vacuum regularly c) use protective felt under furniture, especially under articles that are often moved, such as chairs d) in the event it is necessary to move heavy furniture, it is recommended that woollen cloths are placed under the feet or base of furniture to avoid ugly lines e) before carrying out any painting, electrical works, plumbing, moving and handling furniture, protect the floor with cardboard, woollen blankets and nylon sheets.

It is the responsibility of the end customer to indicate in writing the specific substances that could come into contact with the floor. In some cases, it will be necessary to carry out a test sample to assess any special requirements. The choice of protective treatment (resin) should be made depending on the type of traffic.

As with a wooden floor, Microtopping flooring must be done once all the other works have been completed. This is to avoid objects falling on it and scratches due to processes still underway. Only the finishing can be carried out on the completed floor, taking care to protect the surface with cloths or woollen covers.

Microtopping coating can be subject to scratching. The smoother and more uniform the surface is, the higher the possibility that marks caused by traffic will be seen. These problems and disadvantages can easily be circumvented by choosing a colour and an irregular, uneven type of finish, as well as carrying out adequate ordinary maintenance;

Even if the resin treatment protects the coating from the rapid penetration of accidentally spilled liquids, it is well to remember that all liquids, especially those most commonly found in the domestic environment such as wine, oils, vinegar and coffee, must be removed quickly from all Microtopping surfaces before they can penetrate to any depth.

Special care should be taken with chairs that have hard plastic wheels (office chairs). Soft rubber wheels are available on the market that do not ruin the surface. Otherwise, the use of a carpet is recommended under chairs with wheels.

In the case of underfloor heating systems, it is important to carry out certain actions. Once the sub-floor has set, the underfloor system can be turned on and the temperature can be gradually increased by around 2°C a day until the maximum operating temperature is reached. The heating system must be turned off 5 days before laying the Microtopping floor and, in any case, the surface temperature of the screed at the time of installation must be around 15 – 20°C. In winter, when turning on the boiler, ensure that the water operating temperature does not exceed 32° degrees.

MAINTENANCE

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Recommendations and suggestions for keeping the Microtopping floor looking beautiful and clean:

- Cleaning a Microtopping floor is very simple. A wipe with a damp cloth is enough to clean the surface, with the addition of a little neutral, foam-free detergent.

- It is wise to periodically treat the pavement with protective products based on self-shining waxes dispersed in water (for example, Ideal Cera). Detergents based on soap, acid, ammonia, chlorine or any abrasive detergent product are absolutely prohibited. It is recommended to use only NON AGGRESSIVE, pH-neutral detergents.