



The Chemical Company

RHEOFINISH[®] 288FD

Concrete surface retarder for forms and moulds

DESCRIPTION

RHEOFINISH 288FD is a medium viscosity, liquid retarder used for achieving an exposed aggregate finish on concrete by retarding the setting of cement paste in the surface matrix of formed concrete and then removing it.

The surface retarder is applied on the formwork to effect retardation of the surface of fresh concrete in contact with the treated forms.

RECOMMENDED FOR

RHEOFINISH 288FD is recommended for all formed concrete where it is desired to obtain an exposed aggregate finish or a keyed surface for a superior bond with subsequently placed concrete or mortar layer.

The variable depth of retardation allows considerable flexibility to architects in using different shapes and sizes of aggregate to produce attractive patterns of exposed aggregates on cast in-situ or precast panels.

FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Controlled depth of retardation	Consistent textured finish.
Does not kill hardening process	No deleterious effect on the core concrete or the strength of the concrete mass.
Variable depth of retardation	Scope for producing decorative patterns of exposed aggregates with different shapes and sizes of aggregates.
Creates rough texture	Excellent bond for subsequently laid mortar or concrete layer. Avoids costly surface roughening procedures.
Allows smooth form release	No need for a form release agent.

TYPICAL PERFORMANCE DATA

Typical depth of retardation : 8 mm @ 10 - 12 m²/L.

APPLICATION

Use **RHEOFINISH 288FD** as supplied after stirring thoroughly.

Ensure that the surface of formwork is clean and free from oil, grease, mould releasing agents, water, cement or other loosely adhering materials.

Apply **RHEOFINISH 288FD** at the recommended rate of application (see DOSAGE) by brush on the inner surfaces of the formwork at least an hour before the placing of concrete. Protect the applied surface from rain or other damage.

Avoid scouring of the treated form surfaces while using poker vibrators, and minimise the flow of concrete across the treated forms while placing and vibrating concrete.

Strike off formwork within 48 hours of placing concrete and then immediately hose down the treated surface with medium water pressure to wash away the unset cement paste in the surface matrix. Brush away all the loosely adhering materials. Clean the form surfaces of adhering cement paste immediately after striking off. The debris thus collected should be washed away as cement paste can later set hard making it difficult to remove.

The period of surface retardation will be reduced in hot weather and also if air voids are present between the form and concrete face. The period and the depth of retardation can be increased by increasing the rate of application of **RHEOFINISH 288FD**.

Note:

a. It is recommended that field trials be conducted at different coverage rates on the design concrete mix with site raw materials, to determine the optimum depths of penetration.

b. With high alumina and rapid hardening cements the concrete should be deshuttered within 6 - 8 hrs.

DOSAGE

The rate of application depends upon the depth of retardation desired. **RHEOFINISH 288FD** applied @ 10 - 12 m²/L typically results in a depth of retardation of up to 8 mm. Greater depths of retardation are possible @ 6 - 8 m²/L.

Therefore material requirement is 0.1L/m² to achieve approximately 8 mm depth of retardation.

PACKAGING

RHEOFINISH 288FD is available in 25L carboys and 205L plastic lined drums.

SHELF LIFE

RHEOFINISH 288FD can be stored for 12 months if stored at temperatures above 5°C in tightly sealed original drums. If found to be frozen, thaw it and reconstitute by stirring.

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PRECAUTIONS

Health : RHEOFINISH 288FD is non toxic but can cause irritation to persons with sensitive skin if exposed .

Safety : Wear eye protection and gloves while handling the product. Wash thoroughly after handling.

Fire : Not flammable.

For detailed Health, Safety and Environmental recommendations, please consult and follow all instructions on the product Material Safety Data Sheet.

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STATEMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY

The technical information and application advice given in this **BASF Construction Chemicals** publication are based on the present state of our best scientific and practical knowledge. As the information herein is of a general nature, no assumption can be made as to a product's suitability for a particular use or application and no warranty as to its accuracy, reliability or completeness either expressed or implied is given other than those required by law. The user is responsible for checking the suitability of products for their intended use.

NOTE

Field service where provided does not constitute supervisory responsibility. Suggestions made by **BASF Construction Chemicals** either orally or in writing may be followed, modified or rejected by the owner, engineer or contractor since they, and not **BASF Construction Chemicals**, are responsible for carrying out procedures appropriate to a specific application.
