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Welcome to Flexile's new E-Letter. In an effort to keep you more regularly updated and informed on Flexile, we will be publishing this E-Letter every 2 – 3 months, to be distributed via direct email to all Olympia & Affiliate sales representatives. Each publication will feature both current and upcoming New Product Additions to our line, Feature Projects which highlight the use of complete Flexile installation systems, both general and product specific Technical Application Information, and other information we hope you will find useful in the promotion and selling of Flexile products.

Feedback is welcomed, so please let us know if you find this E-Letter useful, or if you have suggestions for content or improvement. We also encourage you to forward photos and accompanying information on any noteworthy projects you have where Flexile installation systems were used. We may feature these in future Flexile E-Letters, on our Flexile web site, or in other marketing initiatives.

Please send all such responses to the Editor.

UPDATED PACKAGING

WP900 and **WP980** Waterproof & Crack Isolation Membrane pails have been updated to a more current and easy to identify design. Easily recognized by their corresponding coloured lids, **WP900** and **WP980** will start showing up in these newly designed pails in the coming months.



NEW PRODUCT UPDATES

6000 Grout Optimizer

Beginning production in February 2014, **Flexile 6000 Grout Optimizer** is a latex-based grout additive for Flexile & other Polymer Modified Grouts. Used in place of water for mixing, **6000 Grout Optimizer** greatly reduces the porosity of both Sanded & Unsanded Grouts, making them more resistant to stains, easier to clean once cured, and more resistant to freeze/thaw stresses on exterior applications. Added Flexural, Compressive, and Bond strengths are also achieved by the addition of **6000 Grout Optimizer** to standard Polymer Modified Grouts. A good option for a higher performance grout where budgetary or application reasons may make the use of high performance resin-based grouts such as FlexEpoxy 100 or Colourmax Plus unpractical. Available in a 3.8 L (1 US Gallon) bottle.

1600 RSG Fast Setting Grout

Now available in 11.3 kg (25 lb) bags in most of Flexile's top-selling grout colours, **1600 RSG** is a true fast-setting Sanded Polymer Modified Grout, formulated with the same technology as our other fast-setting products such as 58 Versatile, 58XT, 59 & 5900 Self Levelling Underlayments, etc. Advantages of using **1600 RSG** over conventional sanded grouts include the elimination of colour shading and efflorescence in most applications, and the ability to complete projects such as exterior, water immersion, and heavy traffic areas where quicker turnaround times are required. An ideal choice when specifying grout colours such as Jet Black, Charcoal, and similar dark colours that are prone to exhibit colour shading/efflorescence issues.

<http://www.flextile.net/pdfs/CIS/Grout/1600data.pdf>

Flextech 4020 Moisture Barrier

Now available, **4020 Moisture Barrier** is a high performance epoxy-based coating designed to greatly reduce moisture vapor transmission and alkalinity from concrete and other cement-based substrates, including freshly poured (green) concrete, allowing the installation of floorcoverings such as ceramic or stone tile, vinyl, carpet, and wood on such surfaces.

<http://www.flextile.net/pdfs/CIS/SurfacePrep/4020data.pdf>

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FLEXITILE PROJECT HIGHLIGHT

Well under way is one of the largest single projects in Flextile's history where a full Flextile installation system is being used. We are working with Flesher Tile & Marble out of Calgary, AB on the new wing of the Calgary International Airport (YYC) where approximately 800,000 sq. ft. of 24 x 24 and 12 x 24 granite tile is being installed in the new runway concourse and adjoining hotel. Included in the exclusive Flextile prep and installation system is a combination of 4:1 Dry Pack and 5900 Flex Flo Plus to fill and level up to 2.5" over top of a hydronic heating system; complete coverage with Flexilastic 1000 CI membrane w/ 4001 Primer; a tile bond coat of 53 Floor Mix and 44 High Solids Latex Additive, and a mixture of 500 Unsanded and 600 Sanded PM Grout for the narrow 2 mm/1/16" joints. Product is being shipped directly to the site from our factory in Burnaby, BC, with the 4:1 Dry Pack and 44 Latex Additive being packaged in special cost-effective bulk quantities of 1360 kg (3000 lb) & 1000 L (265 USG) containers respectively.

TECHNICAL TIPS

Full Coverage vs Regular Thin-Set Mortars

When should a Full Coverage mortar such as Flextile 56SR, 61, & 62 be used in place of standard mortars such as Flextile 52, 50, etc.? The answer is, generally whenever a larger format (16" x 16" and above) or particularly thick & heavy ceramic or stone tile, or where an ungauged tile or extra rough substrate demand a slightly thicker setting bed. Mortars such as 56SR, 61 & 62 perform two basic functions that standard thin-set mortars don't - Firstly, the slightly larger and more angular aggregate (sand) which is used to produce these mortars allows for a thicker application of mortar to the substrate with minimal concern of shrinkage/cracking upon cure. This allows for minor levelling over rougher surfaces or when uneven gauged stone tiles are being installed, and the aggregate provides better support for freshly laid large format tiles without slumping prior to initial set. This type of support is important in order to prevent the occurrence of the dreaded "lippage", where adjacent tile edges are not at the same level. Secondly, Full Coverage Mortars are formulated with special additives that wet out the bonding surface of the troweled mortar, facilitating a better transfer of mortar to the backs of tile, which can otherwise be difficult to achieve when installing large format tiles, or tiles with contaminants such as packing dust on the back. **It is important to note however, that while Full Coverage Mortars can reduce or even eliminate in some cases the requirement to back-butter the tile, installers are still required to check and ensure that proper transfer of the bond coat (80% on Interior applications, 95% on Exterior & water immersion applications) is achieved. Flextile always recommends back-buttering large format tiles in order to ensure proper mortar bond coat transfer when in doubt.**

