

# Method Statement

Ref. #: DCP00/10-0015-A-2021



## Cemafill M

[Non-sanded Cementitious tile grout]



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## Section A : General Comments

### General Notes:

The information below is a detailed overview for the application of DCP's **Cemafill M** tile grout and should be read in conjunction with the relevant technical data sheet prior to application. All DCP Products should be applied by experienced specialist contractors.

All the points below assume correct preparation of the relevant surface.

*Note: This guideline is written specifically for **Cemafill M**.*

### High Temperature Working:

It is suggested that, for temperatures above 35°C, the following guidelines are adopted as good working practice:

- i. Unmixed materials and equipment should be stored in a cool shaded area and away from direct sunlight.
- ii. Avoid application during peak temperature of the day.
- iii. Plan for enough materials, tools and labor to ensure continuous application process.
- iv. It is recommended to use tap water with temperature not exceeding 25°C.

### Low temperature working:

It is suggested that, for temperatures below 10°C, the following guidelines are adopted as good working practice:

- i. Unmixed materials should be stored in a warm.
- ii. Cold temperatures will affect the properties of the grout.
- iii. Avoid applying the grout if the temperature is around 5°C and falling.

## Tools and Equipment:

It is suggested that the following list of equipment are adopted as a minimum requirement

### Personal protection

- : Protective overalls
- : Goggles or a face mask
- : Good quality gloves
- : Safety shoes
- : Safety helmet



### Equipment

- : Mixing drill (Fig.1)
- : Mixing paddle (Fig.2)
- : Empty bucket (25 ltr) (Fig.3)
- : Spatula (Fig.4)
- : Rubber float (Fig.5)
- : Sponge or dry cloth (Fig.6)



Fig.1: Mixing drill



Fig.2: Mixing paddle



Fig.3: Empty bucket



Fig.4: Spatula



Fig.5: Rubber float



Fig.6: Sponge or dry cloth

## Section B : Application

### 1.0 Substrate Preparation

- 1.1 Ensure that the tile adhesive has completely dried and hardened.
- 1.2 Adhesive should be left for 24 hours before applying the grout unless rapid setting adhesive is used.
- 1.3 All tiles and joints must be clean and free from oil, grease, or loose materials.
- 1.4 Remove the tile spacers and ensure that the grout joints are uniform and their widths do not exceed 3 mm to avoid slumping.
- 1.5 Prepare joints with a fine mist spray of water to reduce suction.
- 1.6 Blow-out joints immediately prior to grouting to ensure there is no standing water.
- 1.7 All tiles must be securely fixed in place and thoroughly cleaned before **Cemafill M** is applied.
- 1.8 All grout joints must be clear of excess adhesive and must be empty down to at least 2/3 of the thickness of the tiles.



### 2.0 Mixing

- 2.1 A mechanically powered mixer or drill fitted with a suitable paddle-type should be used to ensure proper mixing.
- 2.2 Locate the mixing container as close as possible to the area of application in order to minimize the transporting time.
- 2.3 Measure 1.65 - 1.75 litres of clean fresh water for each 5 kg bag (water/powder ratio of 0.33 - 0.35 by weight).
- 2.4 Place the mixing water into a clean container, add the dry powder slowly to the liquid while mixing continuously with low-speed mixer/drill (400 – 600 rpm).
- 2.5 Mixing should be continued for 3 minutes until a uniform consistency and a lump-free mixture is obtained.
- 2.6 Allow the mix to rest for 5 minutes, then remix for an additional 1 minute without adding any more liquid or water.



#### Notes:

- *Slow speed mixer should only be used for mixing.*
- *While mixing, ensure that the mixing blade is kept below the surface of the grout mix to prevent air entrapment.*
- *Do not mix more than the amount of grout to be placed within its working time.*
- *Clean water should only be used for mixing.*
- *Do not use grouts from damaged bags.*
- *Always follow the mentioned mixing ratio. Adding too much liquid will weaken the joints, cause surface discoloration, and promote the formation of cracks.*

### 3.0 Placing

- 3.1 Prior to grouting, ensure that all surfaces are dry and free from any contamination or dust.
- 3.2 Apply the grout as **immediately** as possible after mixing over the surface of the tiles.
- 3.3 Using appropriate spatula or rubber float, fill with pressure the joints completely with **Cemafill M**.
- 3.4 Immediately remove the excess grout by moving the spatula or the edge of the rubber float diagonally over the tiles.
- 3.5 When the grout starts to set (usually 20 - 30 minutes at normal conditions), use a damped sponge in a circular motion to remove the excess grout and level the joints.

*Note: Ensure grout has set sufficiently before starting the cleaning procedure to avoid grout being removed from joints.*

- 3.6 It is advisable to remove uncured grout from textured tiles prior to setting, failure to do so may result in difficulty in removal.
- 3.7 After drying, clean the tiles surface using a dry cloth.



#### Notes:

- Confirm availability of mixing equipment.
- Do not apply at a temperature below 5°C.
- **Cemafill M** can be used for joints up to 3 mm.
- Avoid application in direct sunlight as this may cause cracking in the joint.
- Check the substrate in advance. Ensure that the substrate is in good condition and clean.
- Do not change the product mixing ratio.
- Colour shade variations can result in case of excess liquid or ventilation, temperature variations, and application on very porous tiles.
- When coloured tile grouts are to be used, it is recommended to carry out cleanability test on a small area prior to full application.





#### 4.0 Cleaning

- 4.1 All tools should be cleaned **immediately** after finishing using fresh, clean water. Hardened materials should be cleaned mechanically.

#### 5.0 Limitations

- 5.1 Do not use for joints exceeding 3 mm width.
- 5.2 Avoid freshly applied material exposure to rain, frost, wind or direct heat that may impair the grout setting.
- 5.3 Avoid significant temperature variation during application and setting times.
- 5.4 Do not use grouting tiles on industrial floors where high chemical resistance is required.
- 5.5 Do not use for cases where a rapid utilization of surfaces is required.
- 5.6 Do not use for filling expansion, contraction, or construction joints in walls and floors. These joints should be filled with a suitable flexible sealant from the DCP Flexseal range.

### Section C : Cautions

#### Health and safety

**Cemafill M** may cause irritation to skin or eyes. Avoid contact with skin or eyes. In case of accidental contact with eyes, immediately flush with plenty of water for at least 10 minutes and seek medical advice if necessary.

#### Fire:

**Cemafill M** is nonflammable.

**For further information on refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet.**

### Section D : Approval and Variations

This method statement is offered by DCP as a 'standard proposal' for the application of **Cemafill M**. It remains the responsibility of the Engineer to determine the correct method for any given application. Where alternative methods are to be used, these must be submitted to DCP for approval, in writing, prior to commencement of any work. DCP will not accept responsibility or liability for variations to the above method statement under any other condition.