

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 4-10 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 suitable grit sanding medium. "60 Grit or similar" carborundum disc for example.

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 'Moisture Testing' Datasheet)*

Underfloor 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. 20 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.