

## Flowflex HM

### Application instructions

#### Preparation/Substrate

Surfaces to be coated should be sound and provide adequate strength for the proposed end use with a minimum compressive strength of 25 N/mm<sup>2</sup>. Check the relative humidity of floors at ground level. Substrate humidity must not exceed 75% RH (to BS8204); otherwise prime the surface with Flowflex Primer.

Surfaces must be clean, dry and free of contaminants (e.g. loose particles; oil; grease; asphalt; tar; paint; wax; oxidation; membrane materials; curing and release agents).

Concrete, stone and other masonry substrates must be cleaned by grinding, sandblasting, or wire brushing to expose a sound surface free of contamination and laitance. For previously sealed joints, remove all old material by mechanical means. If joint surfaces have absorbed oils, remove sufficient concrete to ensure a clean surface. All residues must be removed to provide a dry, dust free open textured surface.

**Note:** Ensure that the sealant is compatible with the surface in terms of adhesion, staining and chemical compatibility (test a section first).

#### Primer

Where the substrate humidity exceeds 75% RH and/or where the floor exhibits significant expansion, Flowflex Primer must be used. Allow the primer to dry before applying the sealant.

Apply a thin layer with a soft bristle brush, ensuring the primer permeates corners and edges. Protect from dust and contamination until completely dry.

**Note:** In instances where the substrate is highly absorbent, two coats of primer may be required in order to avoid dry patches.

**Consumption 6** – 8 m<sup>2</sup>/litre.

#### Application

Apply the Flowflex joint sealant in a continuous strip using enough pressure to properly fill the joint. Protect the joint during the first 24 hours of cure.

**Note:** Maximum joint size is 30mm width. The depth must never be more than 50% of the width.

Closed cell polyethylene backing rods maybe used on the larger joint dimensions. To maintain the recommended sealant depth, install the backer-rod by compressing it into the channel without stretching it lengthwise. The backer-rod should be about 3mm larger in diameter than the width of the joint to allow for compression and becomes an integral part of the joint. The sealant does not adhere to it, and no separate bond-breaker is required. Do not prime or puncture the backer-rod.

The depth of the backer-rod needs to take into account the meniscus on the sealant and compression of the rod for correct thickness of sealant, which is measured in the middle of the joint.

Where the joint depth does not permit the use of a backer-rod, it is recommended that a bond breaker (polyethylene strip) is used to prevent three-point bonding.



**Note that:**

The products should be stored in such a way that the temperature is the same as the room temperature where they are to be applied, i.e. within the range 15-25°C. This improves the flow, penetration and hardening of the product.

During application, ambient temperature should be kept above 15°C in order to achieve the best results. The temperature of the substrate should be at least 10°C, although a temperature of 15-25°C is recommended.

The temperature of the substrate should exceed the “dew point” by more than 3°C during application and hardening.

The surface can normally be walked on after 24 hours and complete hardening takes 3 days (at 20°C & 50% RH).

There are often several types of products at a workplace. Sort the products separately to avoid mistakes.

**Consumption** (Estimated lineal meters utilising one 600 ml sausage)

Joint Depth	Joint Width		
	8 mm	12 mm	20 mm
4 mm	18.8	12.5	7.4
6 mm		8.3	5.0
8 mm			3.7
10 mm			3.1

**Cleaning of Tools**

Clean immediately after use in solvent, e.g. Water Soluble Brush Cleaner, Epoxy Thinners or Acetone.

*Any recommendation or suggestion relating to the use of the products made by Flowcrete South Africa Pty Ltd., whether in its technical literature, or in response to a specific enquiry, or otherwise, is based upon data believed to be reliable, however the products and information are intended for use by Customers having requisite skill and know-how in the industry and therefore it is for the Customer to satisfy itself of the suitability of the products for its own particular use and it shall be deemed that the Customer has done so at its sole discretion and risk.*