

Technical Bulletin #71

Rubber Mat Test-Determining Moisture Content in Concrete per ASTM C-4263-88

Purpose:

Capillary moisture in concrete is detrimental to the adhesion and performance of polyurethane deck coatings which can not tolerate moisture on or within the surface boundary.

Materials:

- 4 mil (minimum) polyethylene sheet or rubber mat.
- 2” duct tape.

Conditions:

- Conditions test when surface and ambient temperatures are within the recommended application temperature for the coating system.

Procedure:

- Tape polyethylene sheet or rubber mat approximately 12”x 12” to the deck surface making certain all edges are sealed.
- Allow the polyethylene sheet or rubber mat to remain in place for 16 hours (minimum).
- After 16 hours, remove the polyethylene sheet or rubber mat and observe the underside of the mat and the concrete surface.
- Slight amounts of moisture are normal and are to be expected. Actual beads of water indicate the concrete is too wet for moisture sensitive sealants/coatings to be applied.

