



# QC Release Powder and QC Liquid Release

## Product Information Bulletin 4.0506P

### QC RELEASE POWDER and QC RELEASE POWDER II

The original QC RELEASE POWDER is specifically designed for use with color hardened textured concrete. This product allows for the clean release of texturing tools from the concrete surface, and at the same time, creates highlighting color (also called an antiquing effect). QC RELEASE POWDER II is engineered for use on all concrete surfaces that are to receive texture; including gray concrete, integral colored concrete and color hardened surfaces.

### QC LIQUID RELEASE

QC LIQUID RELEASE is a nonpigment method for releasing mat-type texturing tools from the surface. QC LIQUID RELEASE is an alternative in situations when QC RELEASE POWDER may be prohibitive. QC LIQUID RELEASE is optimal for fast track installation.

### QC RELEASE POWDER and QC RELEASE POWDER II – Uses and Benefits

- QC RELEASE POWDERS—dry-mix formulated powders and color pigments—are designed for the clean release of mat-type texturing tools.
- These products add color-embedded variation to the textured surface, providing highlighting and antiquing effects that closely resemble natural material.
- QC RELEASE POWDER I/II is available in 42 standard colors. See QC COLOR HARDENER and RELEASE POWDER Chart. Custom colors are also available, please contact customer service for information and a price quote.

### Application

1. The surface is ready for release once concrete reaches the point when no bleed water remains on the surface and when concrete is sufficiently firm to withstand texturing tools and the weight of a work crew. QC RELEASE POWDER should be evenly hand-broadcast over the entire surface of freshly placed concrete. An alternative application method is to spread QC RELEASE POWDER with a long-handled scrub brush in order to achieve light, uniform coverage.
2. QC RELEASE POWDER should remain in a dry state on the concrete surface—the product should not be worked into the surface. Care should be taken not to trowel the powder into the wet concrete. Troweling powdered release into the surface will result in permanent discoloration.
3. QC RELEASE POWDER may be removed as soon as the concrete has hardened to the point that it will not scratch or mar easily (normally two to three days). Pressure-washing the surface is the typical removal method. For hard-to-remove release or for heavy texture work with release, a mild muriatic solution may be used (15 parts water: 1 part muriatic acid).

### Curing and Sealing Concrete

1. For curing concrete treated with QC RELEASE POWDER, new, nonwrinkled, nonstaining, reinforced, kraft-curing paper should be used.
2. After release has been washed from the surface and once concrete has dried to a uniform color, sealing the concrete may take place. For sealing concrete, choose from a variety of QC sealers appropriate to project requirements: QC CEMSEAL\*, QC ULTRA SEAL\*, QC VOC III\*, QC SOLVENT SEAL 18\* or 27\*, or QC SURPRO WB\* or SB\*.

### Maintenance

It is highly recommended to develop and follow a routine maintenance schedule for all colored concrete so that it maintains a top-quality appearance. Colored concrete installations should be routinely inspected, cleaned and resealed as local conditions demand. Cleaning and resealing schedules will depend on a number of factors including, but not limited to, volume and intensity of traffic, maintenance procedures and weather.

### Limitations

- Inconsistencies in job site conditions, finishing practices, timing of imprinting, and curing methods may produce variations in the color of the finished product.
- QC RELEASE POWDER may be used on vertical faces of step risers and curbs.

### Coverage Guidelines

- **Note** – Actual coverage may vary depending on color choice, application method, concrete surface finish, wind conditions, and other local conditions.
- **All Colors** – 1,000-1,500 square feet per 30-pound pail.

### Package Sizes

QC RELEASE POWDER is available in 30-pound pails.

### Storage

QC RELEASE POWDER should be kept away from moisture.

### QC LIQUID RELEASE – Uses and Benefits

- QC LIQUID RELEASE is a release choice for applications where powdered products would be prohibitive, due to risk of damage to surrounding landscape, buildings, and interior finished surfaces. QC LIQUID RELEASE provides an option for fast track installation.
- A nonpigment parting agent, QC LIQUID RELEASE is used for releasing mat-type texturing tools from wet concrete.
- QC LIQUID RELEASE will not impede the use of QC PATINA STAINS\* or QC SEALERS\*.
- QC LIQUID RELEASE has a pleasant bubble gum scent.

### Application

1. QC LIQUID RELEASE is applied just before placement of most mat-type imprinting tools during the plastic stage of set.
2. Apply QC LIQUID RELEASE by misting the surface with a pump-up type sprayer equipped with a fan tip. Apply enough QC LIQUID RELEASE to evenly cover the area to be immediately imprinted (150-200 square feet) while avoiding evaporation of the material prior to using texturing mats.
3. QC LIQUID RELEASE will naturally evaporate from the textured concrete surface (usually after 12 hours). After QC LIQUID RELEASE has fully dissipated, alternative colorants can be applied.

### Curing and Sealing Concrete

1. For curing concrete treated with QC LIQUID RELEASE, choose from a variety of QC cures appropriate to project requirements: QC CLEAR CURE\*, QC SURE CURE\*, QC COLOR CURE\* or QC COLORWAX\*. QC CLEAR CURE\* and QC COLOR CURE\* conform to ASTM C 309.
2. QC SURE CURE\* is a specialty curing compound formulated to cure, preserve and protect freshly placed concrete without forming a film or membrane, while not interfering with QC PATINA STAIN\* or CEMENTINT\*.
3. If QC SURE CURE\* or a liquid membrane cure is not appropriate, then new, nonwrinkled, nonstaining, reinforced, kraft-curing paper may be used.
4. After release has been washed or dissipated from the surface and once concrete has dried to a uniform color, sealing the concrete may take place. For finish-sealing concrete, choose from a variety of QC sealers appropriate to project requirements: QC CEMSEAL\*, QC ULTRA SEAL\*, QC VOC III\*, QC SOLVENT SEAL 18\* or 27\*, or QC SURPRO WB\* or SB\*.

## Maintenance

It is highly recommended to develop and follow a routine maintenance schedule for all colored concrete so that it maintains a top-quality appearance. Colored concrete installations should be routinely inspected, cleaned and resealed as required by local conditions. Cleaning and resealing schedules will depend on a number of factors including, but not limited to, volume and intensity of traffic, maintenance procedures and weather.

## Coverage Guidelines

■ **Note** – Actual coverage may vary depending on the application method, wind conditions, texture of concrete prior to application, and other local conditions.

■ Under normal conditions, QC LIQUID RELEASE will cover approximately 300 square feet per gallon.

## Package Sizes

QC LIQUID RELEASE is available in 1-, 5- and 55-gallon containers.

## Shelf Life

QC LIQUID RELEASE has a shelf life of one year.

## Product Handling

For handling and use, consult the corresponding Material Safety Data Sheet before using product.

## Warranty

QC RELEASE POWDER, QC RELEASE POWDER II AND QC LIQUID RELEASE, all proprietary products, are warranted to be of uniform quality within manufacturing tolerances. Since control is not exercised over use, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the effects of such use. Seller's and manufacturer's obligation under this warranty shall be limited to refunding the purchase price of that portion of the material proven to be defective. The user assumes all other risks and liabilities resulting from use of this product. If you have any questions, please contact QC CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS (contact information can be found at end of this bulletin).

## QC RELEASE POWDER and QC RELEASE POWDER II – Specifications

### 1.00 GENERAL

#### 1.04 Related Work

- a. Preparation work, including subgrade preparation, finish grading, constructing formwork, placing and setting screeds, and placement of reinforcement shall be done by a qualified contractor.
- b. Provide and place concrete.
- c. Provide and apply all QC COLOR HARDENER. Regular grade color hardener is recommended for all application areas except those subject to heavy pedestrian traffic or heavy vehicular traffic.
- d. Provide and apply all QC RELEASE POWDER. Release Powder is a dry powdered, colored agent used to facilitate release of the imprinting tools from the concrete surface and to provide moderate color variations to the textured surface.

## 2.00 PRODUCTS AND MATERIALS

### 2.01 Concrete Mix Design

- a. The concrete shall have a minimum compressive strength of 3,000 PSI in nonfreeze areas, 3,500 PSI in moderate freeze-thaw areas and 4,000 PSI in severe freeze-thaw areas. Portland cement shall conform to ASTM C 150 Type I, II or V, depending on soil conditions. Aggregates shall conform to ASTM C 33. Mixing water shall be fresh, clean and potable. In freeze-thaw areas only, an air-entraining admixture complying to ASTM C 260 shall be used to achieve an entrained air content for the particular mix used in accordance with the published recommendations of the Portland Cement Association and the American Concrete Institute. Nonchloride accelerators may be used. No admixtures containing calcium chloride shall be permitted.

### 2.02 Coloring, Imprinting, Curing and Sealing Materials

- a. QC COLOR HARDENER: The concrete shall be colored with the following QC COLOR HARDENER COLOR(S): \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. QC RELEASE POWDER: The following QC RELEASE POWDER COLOR(S) shall be applied to all concrete surfaces to be imprinted and textured: \_\_\_\_\_.

## 3.00 EXECUTION

### 3.01 Installation Procedures

- a. The area to receive imprinted concrete shall have the subgrade prepared as required as for any concrete slab on grade.
- b. The formwork shall be installed in accordance with the drawings. The slab thickness shall be consistent with that of ordinary concrete slabs under the same conditions.
- c. Provide reinforcement as specified.
- d. Control joints and/or expansion joints shall be provided in accordance with the drawings and the guidelines established by the American Concrete Institute. As with any concrete slab, imprinted concrete usually contains construction joints, control joints, and expansion joints. The contractor shall advise and work with the architect/engineer to determine the best location for these joints to minimize the visibility of the joints and to minimize unsightly cracking.
- e. The concrete shall be placed and screeded to the finished grade and floated to a uniform surface using standard finishing techniques.
- f. QC COLOR HARDENER shall be applied evenly to the surface of the fresh concrete by the dry-shake method using a minimum of 60 pounds per 100 square feet. Lighter colors and commercial/industrial applications may require heavier application rates. Consult the QC COLOR HARDENER Product Information Bulletin for coverage guidelines. It shall be applied in two or more shakes, floated after each shake, and troweled only after the final floating.
- g. (Optional) QC RELEASE POWDER shall be applied evenly to the troweled surface prior to imprinting.
- h. All imprinted surfaces shall be cured and/or sealed with QC CURES and SEALERS, depending on the architectural specifications and application. Consult the respective QC Product Information Bulletin for complete product information and application instructions.

\*PLEASE REFER TO CORRESPONDING PRODUCT INFORMATION BULLETIN FOR TECHNICAL AND APPLICATION DATA.

[www.qcconstructionproducts.com](http://www.qcconstructionproducts.com)

For complete information on all QC products — including product information catalogs, product brochures, color charts, technical specifications, sales aids and more — contact QC CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS.

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## QC CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS

11901 Gavin Rd • Laredo, TX 78045  
Customer Service 800.453.8213

[www.qcconstructionproducts.com](http://www.qcconstructionproducts.com) ■ District sales offices and warehouses nationwide

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