



## **DECORATIVE CONCRETE – Frequently Asked Questions**

### **WILL YOU USE STEEL MESH IN MY CONCRETE?**

Yes, we will supply and install steel mesh reinforcement to all areas of your Decorative Concrete, regardless of whether it is for trafficable or pedestrian use, with the exception of Natural Poured Limestone products.

Steel mesh reinforcement is correctly positioned within your poured concrete to ensure that the extent of shrinkage cracking is kept to a minimum, especially during the initial curing stage.

### **WHY DO YOU USE EXPANSION FOAM?**

Changes in temperature and weather conditions cause all products to expand and contract. All SDii Group concrete products are isolated from abutting brickwork, walls, piers and intrusions by a layer of quality expansion foam.

This again works towards minimising extent of cracking throughout the life of your new investment.

### **WILL YOU SEAL MY CONCRETE?**

All exposed aggregate concrete products require cleaning shortly after completion of final exposure. This is completed in two stages, firstly by thoroughly acid washing in a controlled manner, removing any cement residue and further enhancing and ensuring uniformity over the whole project.

Solvent based sealing is completed as the final stage, which really shows the natural lustre of the brilliant colours and natural appeal of the product.

### **WHY USE US?**

SDii Group is a reputable and professional company able to handle any project that you are considering regardless of size or complexity. Our structured, well planned and professional approach to all aspects of works will ensure “peace of mind” from start to finish.

## **WILL MY CONCRETE BE SMOOTH?**

All efforts are made to achieve that ultimate “close shave” type finish, but all mix designs vary in calibration and grade of stone. This and the very nature of the washing/exposure process often results in varying levels of exposure from job to job and this is something that you need to be aware of.

When considering exposure, it is not the level or extent of exposure that determines a successful finish, but the “consistency” throughout the job.

This is where our machine washing process really makes a difference.

## **WHY ARE THERE VARIATIONS IN MY CONCRETE?**

When selecting a decorative concrete type product, you need to consider that it is essentially a “natural product” and will consist of an element of variation in both colour and texture. All efforts are made to reduce and minimise the extent of variation, but in one way the natural variation and randomness of the product is what you are paying for.

## **EXPOSED AGGREGATE CONCRETE IS OUTSIDE MY BUDGET?**

SDii Group offers a complete range of decorative concrete and related products. Whilst honed and exposed aggregate concrete products are not for everyone, why not consider available ranges of either Natural Poured Limestone or Coloured Concrete which are available in an endless range of colours, saving you money without the compromise.

## **WHAT ABOUT THE CRACKING?**

Well, concrete cracks... It is an inherent part of the concrete curing process. Having said this, SDii Group does do everything it possibly can to minimise and limit the actual extent of cracking, but on occasion “shrinkage type” cracking does occur.

We cannot guarantee against cracking and neither can your builder.

## **WHY ARE YOU TELLING ME ALL THIS?**

All decorative concrete finishes are based and rely on natural products quarried from sites at varying stages and different months and times of the year and will never be 100% consistent. These natural factors result in elements of variation ranging from colour, exposure, texture and finish, and it is important to us that you are fully aware of all these considerations prior to your product selection.

*Should you wish to discuss any further technical details or need to know more please contact SDii Group Pty Ltd – 0455 022 112 or visit [www.sdiigroup.com.au](http://www.sdiigroup.com.au)*