

dave's diary....

issue 4

summer 2003



Davco Products Feature Extensively In Luxury Apartments

Davco Construction Materials products have been used extensively throughout the construction of the recently completed Sunrise Apartments at Tuncurry.

Our products are in the background for obvious reasons. But they are critical to successful waterproofing, tiling and grouting as well as sound transmission controls.

Scope of work: *Waterproofing* - balconies, water features / ponds, lift shaft, planter boxes and bathrooms.

Tiling - balconies, living areas, bathrooms, water features and swimming pool

Tiling Contractor: KI Tiles Forster

Completed: 2003

Continuous research and development programs ensure that the Davco range of products are continually tested for performance in all conditions. We back this up with technical support for specifiers, applicators and tile outlets. A very pleasing aspect of the Sunrise Apartments construction was the role played by KI Tiles for the supply of the selected Davco products. This shows that Davco technical and product expertise is available at the regional and local level through a network of tile outlets.



Davco
EXCELLENCE IN
TILING SYSTEMS

Congratulations to KI Tiles Forster, for a job well done!

Welcome to Issue 4 of Dave's Diary, we hope you like the new format and would welcome any suggestions regarding topics you would like featured in the next issue or questions for Dave's Diary.

Kind regards,
Davco Dave

PS. If you wish to be removed from the Dave's Diary mailing list, please let us know by emailing marketing@davco.com.au or fax (02) 9725 5551.



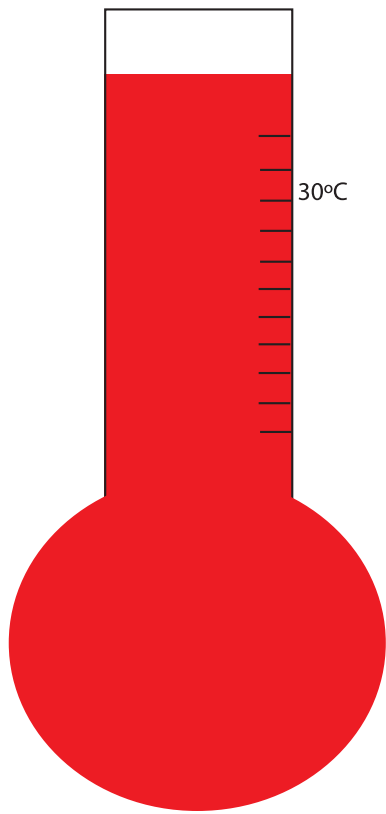
Davco welcome our new state office in Western Australia... The new team include Mick Mugg - state manager (back left), Brent Dunkerley (back right), Megan Mugg (front left) and Carmel Booth (front right). For the past 10 years Mick's company Fixem Building Supplies has acted as an agent for Davco products in WA, but has now become a welcome addition to the Davco team.

Davco acquired the Fixem business in August 2003.

For all enquiries - Ph: (08) 9302-1466 Fax: (08) 9302-1174

in this issue....

- Sunrise Apartments project
- WA state office
- Hot Weather Tiling
- Waterproofing Guide now available



Tiling in Hot Weather Conditions.....

For most people summer is a time of fun and relaxing at the beach, but for those in the trade it means dealing with increasing temperatures and the havoc this can bring to tiling applications. To help make life a little easier, Davco have a few suggestions that may come in handy.

1 Temperature.... it is important to note the difference between air temperature and surface temperature. In hot weather, the surface temperature is most important as the substrate can have a much higher temperature than the air, especially if it is directly in the sun.

If the ambient temperature is above 35°C and the surface to be tiled is in direct sunlight, it is recommended that the installation be postponed until conditions are more suitable.

The use of shade cloth or a tarp to protect the installation should be used when tiling in hot weather.

2 Surface Preparation....in hot weather, you need to slightly change the way you prepare the surface.

If the ambient temperature is above 30°C, the surface will be too hot and the primer will flash dry rather than penetrate the surface. To prevent this, wet down the surface with clean water prior to priming. Whilst

wetting down the surface do not allow the water to pool or pond on the surface. The surface should appear matt, with no signs of glistening water just prior to application of the primer. Then prime straight over the damp surface.

Leave the primer to dry for the specified 30 minutes or until the milkiness disappears. Once the primer is applied it is recommended that the substrate be subsequently overcoated within 24 hours otherwise you risk the chance of re-contaminating the surface. In windy conditions it is suggested that the area be protected to help slow down the drying process.

Care should also be taken when laying tiles over waterproofing membranes, especially dark coloured membranes as they absorb the heat.

3 Adhesive Application....in hot weather the pot life, open time and adjustment time of the adhesive can be significantly affected - windy conditions make these problems even worse. In windy conditions it is suggested that the area be protected to help slow down the drying process. Under these conditions the following recommendations should be used:

- mix water should be at 20°C,

cool it down if possible.

- make smaller batches of adhesive, to reduce pot life problems.
- trowel out smaller areas at a time, to reduce open time problems.
- ensure that tiles are placed onto the adhesive as soon as possible, to reduce open time and adjustment time problems.

4 Grouting.... just like adhesive in hot weather, grout will also be affected by a shorter pot life, and less workability. In addition clean up of the grout can be significantly affected.

Again, protect the area you are working in from the wind and also take note of these tips:

- cool down the mix water if possible, the best temperature is 20°C.
- wet down grout joints prior to grouting - this improves workability and reduces clean up problems.
- make smaller batches of the grout - to reduce pot life problems.
- grout smaller areas at a time to help with workability and clean up problems.
- if the installation is in direct sunlight, ensure the grout is not left too long before cleaning off the tiles otherwise the grout will be far more difficult to remove from the face of the tile.

NEW! Easy to follow waterproofing guide

Davco have released a new Waterproofing Guide. A valuable tool for selection and installation of waterproofing membranes.

The Guide details, in an easy to follow format, the correct steps to waterproofing various installations. These include;

- wet areas in residential buildings,
- roofs, decks and balconies,
- planter boxes, and water tanks/ponds
- the correct treatment of expansion joints and cracks.

In addition to the waterproofing steps in the guide we have included Davco product information to assist in the selection or specification of the most suitable product for the particular waterproofing project.

Also included is a Davco waterproofing selection guide on the back page for easy reference.



Download your copy of the guide today at www.davco.com.au or contact your nearest Davco state office.

product update....

NEW FORMULATION - TRADEFLEX 2-PART TILE ADHESIVE....



In keeping with our commitment to continual product development and performance, Davco have released a new formulation of the highly popular Tradeflex. The new Tradeflex has a higher bond strength and is easier to mix and use through improved workability as it is a **true 2:1 mix**.

Features of the new formulation include:

- Improved flexibility and adhesion
- Off-white in colour
- Improved coverage
- Multiple pack sizes

The new formulation is now available in:

- 1 x 20L liquid with 2 x 20kg powder
- 1 x 10L liquid with 1 x 20kg powder

THE ULTIMATE NATURAL STONE FIXING SYSTEM...



Davco have released a new innovative product....SMP 2010 a white, premium grade, polymer fortified and reinforced adhesive specifically designed for high quality porcelain, stone and marble installations.

Features of the new adhesive include:

- Polymer fortified
- Reinforced
- Long repositioning time
- High bond strength
- White in colour

SMP 2010 is available in:

- a 20kg bag, which will cover approximately 4.5m² using a 10mm x 10mm-notched trowel.

dear dave....

Q. I regularly get enquires from customers regarding the requirements for expansion / movement joints on floors, can you please advise?

- A.** Expansion/movement joints are required by Australian Standard AS3958.1 1991 for the following purposes:
- To separate the tiled surface from fixed elements such as columns or walls.
 - To divide large tiled areas into smaller ones to compensate for induced strain from various causes in the installation.
 - To interrupt the tiled surface to match existing movement joints in the substrate.

All Expansion/Movement joints (for floors and walls) must be carried through both the tile AND bedding material, to the background substrate. They must be filled with silicone or polyurethane, and be resistant to

chemical and physical attack. Joints other than those protected by metal or rigid plastics edging, subject to traffic heavier than light pedestrian, should not be wider than 10 mm.

Where should they be installed? FLOORS

1. Must be inserted immediately over and be continuous with movement joints in the substrate.
2. They should be of sufficient width to permit joint filling to accommodate the anticipated movement
3. Intermediate Joints should be provided in evenly spaced positions at approximately 4.5m centres or at locations where stress might reasonably be expected in:
 - Internal floors where any dimension exceeds 9m or exceeds 6m and is exposed to direct sunlight.
 - External floors where any dimension exceeds 4.5m.

Perimeter Joints should be inserted where the tiling meets a wall or floor, columns and any other interruption to the tiles' surface. If perimeter joints are deleted, tiling should finish a minimum of 3mm from restraining surface, and left ungrouted. Perimeter joints are recommended in all areas where conditions that may generate stresses are likely to be extreme, for example, rapid, large temperature changes (e.g. underfloor heating).

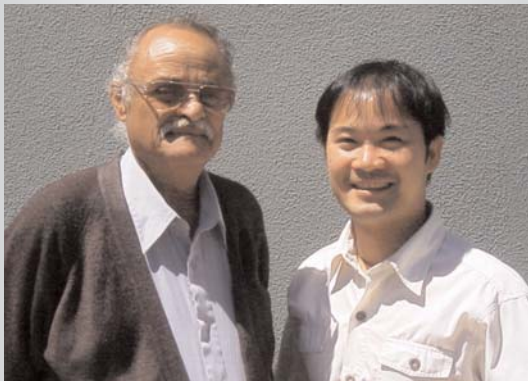
Note: all expansion joints should be incorporated at the time of laying tiles. It is not acceptable to use a diamond saw to cut expansion joints after the tiles have been laid.

For more information please refer to Australian Standard AS3958.1 1991 or contact Davco on Toll Free Technical Line 1800 653 347.

Expansion Joints for Walls.

Expansion/ movement joints for walls should also be considered as these differ from the requirements for floors. For full details check out the Davco Website www.davco.com.au or call the Technical Advisory Line on 1800 653 347.

staff corner....



Sam Moses (left) and **Hoai Duc Mai** have both recently taken on a change of pace at our Wetherill Park, NSW site. Sam has moved into the position of Technical Service Officer - our main point of contact for technical enquires, and Hoai has taken on the role of Technical Service Chemist. Both bring over 9 years of knowledge and experience at Davco to their new positions - congratulations to you both!



Davco now the No.2 constructions materials supplier in all B&Q stores throughout China

Davco in China... on the 28th August 2003, Ferns Construction Materials (G.Z) Ltd (Davco's distributor in China) was involved in the official opening of Guangzhou's first multiple retail supply outlet of the British home hardware chain - B&Q.

Shadowed beneath a canopy of Davco branded umbrellas, guests of honour included the Vice Chairman of the British Council in Guangzhou, the Global President of B&Q, the Vice Mayor and the Chinese President of B&Q.

Congratulations to Wu Hai Ming and his team in China for the great work.

