



Technical bulletin

Gypsum-based self-leveling underlayments, Skim coat and Floor Patch

Until very recently, gypsum-based self-leveling underlayments, skim coat and floor patch compounds were not recommended under resilient floor coverings because of poor performance in the field; low compression strength and poor water resistance were the major weaknesses of gypsum-based products.

Lately, gypsum manufacturers worked on developing high-strength modified gypsum products in order to overcome the weak resistance (versus cement-based products) of gypsum under heavy rolling load.

USG (United States Gypsum Company) has developed improved products, namely its Durock™ product line, that have shown much higher compression strength than standard gypsum-based products, as tested in controlled laboratory conditions, nearly similar to cement-based compounds.

Performance of both Texas Granite® and ABPURE® floor covering using AD-610 and AD-777 were evaluated at USG. The adhesion properties of the systems showed high level results, similar to cement-based products.

USG new self-leveling underlayments, skim coat and floor patch compounds can therefore be used in replacement of cement-based compounds. The standard requirements for maximum moisture level and pH in the subfloor must be met at all times, as described in USG's technical specification as well as in American Bilrite's technical specifications. Excessive concrete moisture level must be corrected with a remediation system, as recommended by American Bilrite. In order to prevent infiltration of occasional water spill on the floor into the self-leveling underlayment, skim coat or the patches, a primer, such as USG's Durock Primer-Sealer, should be spread on the floor prior to the installation of the resilient floor covering. Use only American Bilrite recommended primers.

As long as the subfloor meets our recommendations, American Bilrite supports the use of USG Durock™ product line with our floor covering products, specifically Texas Granite® and ABPURE® floor coverings.

Technical Department

February 3, 2017

Page 1 of 1
6110-A (2017-03-13)