



inova | crete



**Polished concrete is increasing in popularity** for its cost effectiveness, sustainability, durability, availability, and health benefits. As the most versatile and durable flooring option available on the market today, the demand for InovaCrete™ is on the rise for many different applications including industrial buildings, warehouses, stores, schools, etc.

## What is InovaCrete™?

InovaCrete™ is a concrete polishing system designed for large commercial projects where an efficient and fast, large scale solution is needed. At Superabrasive, we train flooring professionals on the system, machines, and tooling, and certify them in the application process. Only a certified InovaCrete professional can install an InovaCrete™ floor.

## InovaCrete™ is cost effective

- In most cases, an existing concrete slab may be utilized, eliminating the need for any additional installation. Polished concrete is extremely durable; Life-cycle cost is less than any other flooring alternative, including hardwood, carpet, vinyl, ceramic tile, terrazzo, concrete overlays, and concrete coatings. Polished concrete is scratch-resistant and requires low maintenance.

## InovaCrete™ is a healthy alternative to other flooring options

- Improves indoor air quality; polished concrete is dust free and emits no toxic chemicals
- Increases floor slip resistance and is OSHA compliant

## InovaCrete™ is “green”

- All required chemical products are LEED friendly
- Increases a room’s light reflectivity, thereby reducing the amount of artificial light required to illuminate and the energy required to heat the space
- Compliant with the AIA’s Efficient Artificial Lighting and Daylighting sustainable design components
- Reduces life-cycle costs
- Reduces construction waste
- Recognized as a sustainable design material by the AIA and US Green Building Council

## What InovaCrete™ is NOT:

- Polished concrete should not be confused with concrete overlays, acid-stained concrete, or any other concrete flooring alternative that requires a “skim-coat” concrete application

**SECTION 03 35 43 - POLISHED CONCRETE FINISHING**

**InovaCrete Polished Concrete Floor Finish  
(GUIDE SPEC)**

**PART 1 GENERAL**

**1.01 SUMMARY**

This Section includes information about:

- A. Polished concrete finish in accordance with InovaCrete concept for polishing concrete.
- B. All labor, material, equipment and services necessary for the diamond grinding and polishing of concrete floors in accordance with the InovaCrete concept.
- C. Applying densifying impregnator/sealer and polishing to specified sheen level and aggregate exposure.

**1.02 REFERENCES**

- A. American Concrete Institute (ACI):
  - 1. ACI 117 - Standard Specifications for Tolerances for Concrete Construction and Materials; American Concrete Institute.
  - 2. ACI 301 – Specifications for Structural Concrete for Buildings; American Concrete Institute.
  - 3. ACI 302.1R – Guide for Concrete Floor and Slab Construction; American Concrete Institute.
- B. American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM):
  - 1. ASTM C 779 - Standard Test Method for Abrasion Resistance of Horizontal Concrete Surfaces, procedure A.
  - 2. ASTM E 1155 - Standard Test Method for Determining F (F) Floor Flatness and F(L) Floor Levelness Numbers; 1996.
  - 3. ASTM 1028 – Coefficient of Friction.
  - 4. ASTM C 805 – Impact Strength.
  - 5. ASTM G 23-81 – Ultraviolet Light & Water Spray.
  - 6. ASTM C 150 – Type I, II Portland Cement Conformity, depending on soil conditions.
  - 7. ASTM C 33 – Aggregate Conformity.

- C. **Other Tests:**
  - 1. **Reflectivity.**

### 1.03 SUBMITTALS

- A. Prior to commencement of work submit all product data sheets for concrete densifiers/hardeners, grinding equipment, vacuum systems, joint fillers and diamond tooling to be used.
- B. Installation contractor's qualification history/data.
- C. Manufacturer's Certification – Provide a letter of certification from product manufacturer(s) stating that the installer is a certified applicator and is familiar with the proper procedures, surface preparations and installation requirements recommended by the manufacturer(s).
- D. Samples: Prior to commencement of work provide 10" x 10" finished samples for the Owner's review. See 1.06 Mock-Up.
- E. Provide maintenance procedures using the Diama-Clean cleaning system for the polished concrete floor to the Owner's Representative.

### 1.04 QUALITY ASSURANCE

- A. Installer Qualifications: Installer shall be an established company regularly engaged in the installation of polished concrete floor system with a minimum of five (5) years experience. Contractor shall furnish documentation regarding the successful completion of projects of similar magnitude and complexity.
- B. Single Source Responsibility: All required materials and installation personnel to be provided by the installing contractor.
- C. Pre-pour Meeting: The contractor shall conduct an onsite meeting before the pour/placement of the concrete slab related to this section with the Owners Representative, concrete finishing contractor and concrete polishing contractor to review requirements necessary for a successful polished floor surface.
- D. Pre-installation Meeting: The Contractor shall conduct an onsite pre-installation meeting with the Owner in which the written floor finishing plan

is reviewed. Pre-installation meeting shall include a walk down of the floor to review the condition of the floor and to determine surface preparation requirements. Additional topics of discussion shall include:

1. Floor surface preparation, cleaning, and protection.
2. Previous products applied to concrete floors, including curing compounds.
3. Application means and methods, including equipment to be used.
4. Sequence of installation.
5. Location of sample finished area.
6. Desired sheen and appearance of the finished floor.
7. Acceptability of finished slab and/or deficiencies of finished slab and associated remedies.

## 1.05 PROJECT/SITE CONDITIONS

- A. Floor areas to be polished are to be free and clear of all obstacles including racking, fixtures and temporary equipment and materials in order to provide an open and uninhibited concrete slab.
- B. Any anchoring bolts, cut off conduit and other associated items removed in a demolition process need to be removed or recessed a minimum of ¼" below lowest surrounding point of the concrete floor surface.
- C. All previous flooring materials such as tile, carpet and wood flooring and associated adhesives are to be removed prior to the installation of the polished concrete flooring. Caution needs to be taken to ensure that no damage to the concrete floor takes place since the slab will be the finish product.
- D. A minimum of 28 days of cure on new concrete should be provided before system installation is initiated.
- E. Protection: General Contractor shall protect areas to receive polished concrete finish at all times during construction to prevent oils, dirt, metal, excessive water and other potentially damaging materials from affecting the finished concrete surface. Protection measures listed below shall begin immediately after the concrete slab is poured:
  1. Protect from all petroleum stains during construction.
  2. Diaper all hydraulic powered equipment.
  3. Do not park vehicles on inside slab.
  4. No pipe cutting machines will be used on inside floor slab.
  5. Do not place reinforcing steel on interior slab, to avoid rust stains.
  6. Do not use acids or acidic detergents on slab.

- 7. Inform all trades that the slab is to be protected at all times.
  - 8. No skids are to remain in contact with floor surface for an extended period of time.
- F. Ensure that adequate lighting has been installed to support surface preparation and polishing application. A minimum of half the illumination of an open facility is required.

## 1.06 MOCK-UP

- A. Install a completed 10'x 10' sample of the proposed system at location determined by the Owner's Representative. If approved by owner or owner's representative, the mock-up may be incorporated into the work. If a special concrete slab is placed for installation of sample, it must meet the same specification as the project's flatwork requirements for the polished concrete floor areas.
- B. Equipment, tooling and products used are to be the same specified in Section 2.02 and the same that will be used for the entire project.

## 1.07 WARRANTY

- C. The installer shall furnish a SINGLE SOURCE warranty for their system for a period of one year minimum.

## 1.08 ENVIRONMENTAL LIMITATIONS

- A. Comply with manufacturers' written instructions for substrate temperature and moisture content, ambient temperature and humidity, ventilation and other conditions affecting chemical performance.
- B. Flatness and levelness:
  - 1. Finish Concrete shall have a minimum Floor Flatness rating of at least 40.
  - 2. Finish Concrete shall have a minimum Floor Levelness rating of at least 30.
  - 3. Finish Concrete shall be cured a minimum of 28 days or at which point equipment can be put on the slab and does not displace aggregate.
- C. Application of finish system shall take place a minimum of 21 days prior to fixture and trim installation and/or substantial completion.

- D. Finish Concrete area shall be closed to traffic during finish floor application and after application, for the time as recommended by manufacturer.

## 1.09 CONCRETE MIX DESIGN

Note to specifier:

- 1. Minimum concrete compressive strength should be 3,500 psi.
- 2. Normal Weight concrete, No light weight aggregate.
- 3. Non-Air entrained.
- 4. Natural Concrete slump of 4 ½ to 5", Admixtures may be used.
- 5. Flatness requirements:
  - a. Overall Ff 40
  - b. Local Ff 20
  - c. Overall FL not required
  - d. Local FL not required
- 6. Tight Hard Troweled (three passes) concrete. No burn marks. Reference ACI 302.1R, class 5 or class 6 floor.
- 7. Curing: Options:
  - a. ASTM C 309 Membrane forming curing compound
  - b. No acrylic curing and sealing compounds.
  - c. ASTM C 171 Sheet membrane
  - d. Damp curing, seven-day cure.

## PART 2 PRODUCTS AND MANUFACTURERS

### 2.01 ACCEPTABLE PRODUCTS AND MANUFACTURERS

- A. LAVINA 30G Pro by Superabrasive Inc. - a propane powered 30-inch low-profile grinding and polishing machine, or other approved Lavina machine.
- B. Dust extraction system incorporating HEPA filter(s) capable of containing airborne dust.
- C. Hand or edge grinders with dust extraction or dust suppression attachment.
- D. Diamond Tools
  - 1. Superabrasive's QuickChange Metal bonded diamonds: 30, 70 grit
  - 2. Superabrasive's Calibra Ceramic bonded diamonds: 100 grit
  - 3. Superabrasive's V-Harr Resin bonded diamonds: 200, 400, 800, 1500, 3000 grit



- E. High speed burnisher – minimum 27 inch head generating 2,200 rpm or greater.
- F. Superabrasive's Diama-Clean diamond impregnated floor maintenance pads.
- G. Chemicals by Prosoco and/or Ameripolish
- H. VersaFlex SL/85 polyurea polymer, semi-rigid joint filler.

## **PART 3 EXECUTION**

### **3.01 EXAMINATION**

- A. Verification of Conditions: Examine surfaces scheduled to receive the work of this section for defects that will adversely affect the execution and quality of the work. Do not proceed until unsatisfactory conditions are corrected. Provide in writing to Owner a list of the conditions.
- B. New Concrete: Confirm that a minimum of 28 days has elapsed before installation can begin. Also confirm if curing agents or hardening agents have been applied.

### **3.02 PREPARATION**

- A. Cleaning and preparation:
  - 1. Remove paint droppings by scraping, solvent stripper, and damp cloth. Do not use stripper with acidic pH.
  - 2. Remove oil spots with emulsifier and oil absorbent material followed by detail scrub with high pH detergent.
  - 3. Scrub floor with automatic scrubber capable equipped with soft brushes or pads. Use proper dilution of pH neutral detergent.
  - 4. Clean the floor completely of materials and debris.
  - 5. Protect adjacent surfaces as required to prevent damage by the concrete polishing procedure.



6. Set up grinding machine, dust extraction system, tooling and, if necessary, generator.

### 3.03 POLISHING

- A. The polishing guidelines listed below are for information only. The exact step by step application will vary depending on project requirements, floor condition and desired polish.
  1. Repair and fill any surface cracks as necessary.
  2. Thoroughly clean the floor surface as specified in Section 3.02.
  3. Start the process with a 70 grit metal bonded diamond pass or lower until a uniform scratch pattern is developed. If a 30 grit is used, it will need to be followed by the 70 grit. Vacuum the floor thoroughly using squeegee vacuum attachment.
  4. Continue the process with 100 grit Calibra ceramic bonded diamond pass. Vacuum the floor thoroughly using squeegee vacuum attachment.
  5. Install penetrating densifier as per manufacturer's recommendation.
  6. Continue the process with a 200 grit V-Harr resin bonded diamond pass. Vacuum the floor thoroughly using squeegee vacuum attachment.
  7. Continue polishing with a 400 grit V-Harr resin bonded diamond pass. Vacuum the floor thoroughly using squeegee vacuum attachment.
  8. Continue polishing in succession with each resin diamond pass as listed below to progressively polish the floor slab to the desired level. Vacuum the floor thoroughly using squeegee vacuum attachment between each step.
    - a) 800 grit resin bonded diamonds – low gloss.
    - b) 1500 grit resin bonded diamonds – medium gloss.
    - c) 3000 grit resin bonded diamonds – high gloss.
  9. Apply sealer and burnish with a V-Harr Buff diamond impregnated pad.
  10. Polished floor surface finish edges by stationary objects including interior partition walls need to be addressed in accordance with the specified notes on the finish schedule.

### 3.04 CLEANUP

- A. Dispose of used materials in accordance with local regulations. Concrete dust collected from the installation of the system shall be the responsibility of the originator of the work.

**3.05 PROTECTION**

- A. Keep premises clean and free of debris.
- B. Protect adjoining surfaces from damage, dust and spatter related to the work of this section.
  - 1. Repair damage caused by the work of this section.
  - 2. Clean dust and spatter from adjoining surfaces.
- C. Advise all contractors, vendors and others working in the areas completed that the concrete slab surface is the finished floor and is to be protected accordingly as in Section 1.05 F.
- D. Protect floors from damage until Grand Opening. Use of plastic sheeting is not permitted.
- E. Follow system manufacturer's instruction for cleaning to ensure proper protection from dirt and debris.

**3.06 INSPECTION**

- A. Request acceptance by Owner's Representative for the finished floor.
- B. Correct all unacceptable work to the satisfaction of the Owner's Representative.

**END OF SECTION**