



NATIONAL TERRAZZO & MOSAIC ASSOCIATION

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EPOXY TERRAZZO & LIGHTWEIGHT CONCRETE

Metal pan composite decks are ideally topped with conventional mix designs of Portland cement/ordinary aggregates for structural concrete. On occasion, “haydite” (commonly expanded shale) or other lightweight aggregates are substituted for pea gravel or other dense stone to reduce the dead loads of slabs in a specific structural design.

Lightweight structural concrete retains moisture and significantly extends the drying time. As with any concrete substrate, proper testing for moisture content is critical to ensure slabs are sufficiently dry to receive the terrazzo flooring.

For epoxy matrix terrazzo systems on lightweight structural concrete, the NTMA recommends the following factors be considered and followed for the benefit of all parties involved. The mandatory requirements for the moisture mitigation system must comply with the resin manufacturer’s recommendations.

Additional precaution: Lightweight aggregate concrete slabs often experience extraordinary degrees of shrinkage cracking, such as when higher than optimum water to cement ratios mix design slabs are placed on steel decking, which usually occurs to facilitate easier pump-ability in larger, open areas without some provision of control joints.

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