

**Acrylic Latex Admixture****PRODUCT DESCRIPTION**

CURECRYLIC® 938 Admixture is an acrylic latex emulsion formulated to enhance C-Cure grouts. CURECRYLIC 938 may also be used as an additive to C-Cure's dry-set mortars for those less demanding installations which require a latex Portland cement mortar. For C-Cure grouts and mortars, CURECRYLIC 938 significantly improves bond strengths, provides higher density, greater flexibility and resistance to thermal shock. CURECRYLIC 938's acrylic base provides UV stability enhancing a grout's appearance through better color retention and less fading caused by ultraviolet rays.

**▶ BASIC USE**

CURECRYLIC 938 Admixture is primarily used as a grout additive in lieu of water to improve the physical characteristics for both interior and exterior installations. It is excellent for grouting tiles with high absorption levels, 7% or more, that tend to pull the water out of the grout, thus severely inhibiting the normal hydration of Portland cement. CURECRYLIC 938 will help retain the water necessary for hydration, thus eliminating the necessity for damp curing in dry conditions. Grouts modified with CURECRYLIC 938 provide easier tile surface cleaning over conventional latex admixtures. CURECRYLIC 938 Admixture may also be used as a latex additive for C-Cure's dry-set mortars and underlayments. When added to these products, it must be used as a direct replacement for water.

**▶ AREAS OF USE**

Suitable backings, when properly prepared, include plumb and true masonry, concrete cementitious backer units, cured Portland cement mortar beds, brick, ceramic tile, and marble. For interior dry areas only, it can be used over gypsum board and exterior grade plywood.

**▶ LIMITATIONS**

CURECRYLIC 938 Admixture must not be diluted with water when used with grouts, dry-sets and underlayments. Mechanical mixers must be 300 RPM or lower to avoid entraining air which will substantially weaken the mortar. When used to install tile in an area that will be continually wet (e.g. *swimming pools, gang showers, etc.*) it is recommended that the complete installation shall be cured a minimum of 14 days and allowed to thoroughly dry before exposure to water.

**▶ APPLICABLE STANDARDS**

When CURECRYLIC 938 is used with one of C-Cure's dry-set mortars, it meets the requirements for a latex-Portland cement mortar as found in ANSI A118.4, ANSI A108.5 and C.T.I. 64-1. As a C-Cure grout additive, it meets the requirements of ANSI A108.10 and ANSI A118.6 H2.4.

Color — White.

Texture — Free-flowing liquid.

**▶ PACKAGING**

4 / 1 gallon (3.78 L) bottles, 5 gallon. (18.9 L) pails, 55 gallon (208 L) drums.

**INSTALLATION****▶ PREPARATORY WORK**

Evaluation of the job conditions and the materials to be used will be the primary controlling factors that will determine the outcome of the job. As in all cases, if proper precautions are taken before a job is started, many problems that are within the realm of your control may be prevented, assuring a satisfactory job. The following is a suggested check list that one should follow to produce the best possible results when grouting a ceramic tile installation.

1) Wait a minimum of 48 hours before grouting a dry-set installation. Wait 72 hours before grouting a conventional mortar bed installation. Portland cement mortar beds that are excessively wet or have moisture coming through the slab may be producers of efflorescence. If this is the case, extra drying time may be required to reduce the problem of efflorescence later on the grout joint. If organic adhesives are used, a minimum of 48 hours is required for the evaporation of solvents which will kill cement mortars. When epoxies are used, a minimum of 24 hours is required for the evaporation of solvents which will kill cement mortars. These recommendations are made on the premise that the ambient temperature is 70°F (21°C), therefore, allowances should be made if the temperature is other than this. A longer time should be allowed for cooler temperatures, and shorter times may be possible if the temperature is higher.

2) The width and depth of all the joints should be the same. If tile spacers or construction debris is present, it should be removed prior to grouting. Also, if excessive setting mortar (1/3 the depth of the joint) is in the joints, it should be removed so as to be uniform.

3) Plan your day's work so the next day's grouting does not join in the center of conspicuous areas.

4) On exterior work and also sometimes on interior work, it may be necessary to use shades or screens to prevent rapid water evaporation due to sun or wind. The grouting should be done at the coolest part of the day. During winter months, it will be necessary to prevent the grout from freezing conditions for the first 72 hours.

5) If grout colors contrasting to the tile are used in grouting, it may be necessary to use a grout release. It is best to check with the tile manufacturer for his recommendations or do a test panel simulating your job conditions.

6) Dampen the joints and wet the surface of the tile by means of fogging prior to

placing the grout on the tile, however, no standing water should be present. This will do three things: First, the grouting of a wet surface is easier. Second, it will reduce absorption of fine pigments and cement into the small pores of the tile, thus reducing cleanup time and possible staining. Third, this dampening of the joints will prevent the rapid loss of water from the grout, improving its color control and final hardness.

7) If expansion joints are present in the job, care shall be taken to prevent grout from getting into the control joint. This expansion joint will have to be later cleaned out and a sealant applied.

8) During winter months care should be taken that both the dry powder grout and mixing liquids are at least 60°F (16°C) and the grouted installation should be maintained at 60°F (16°C) for a minimum of 24 hours.

9) When grouting under adverse conditions such as below recommended temperatures or in highly humid conditions, mixing the grout with CURECRYLIC 938 or PROGROUT ADDITIVE 945 will decrease the chance of discoloration and help prevent efflorescence of the grout.

**▶ MIXING**

If possible use the same person to mix the grout for any on job mixing so that the same mixing technique will be used throughout the job. On small jobs, if less than a full bag is mixed at one time, the entire bag should be dry mixed first prior to the addition of water or CURECRYLIC 938 Admixture. This is done to prevent a color variance in the finished product that may be possible due to pigments and fine aggregates which have a tendency to settle while being transported. During the mixing process the grout should be mixed with as little liquid as is practical for application.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** When mixing MP® GROUT only water shall be used. Do not add latex admixtures. In addition, the grout must be mixed thoroughly either by hand or with a low RPM power mixer to ensure uniform color and maximum strength. A suggested mixing procedure is as follows: To a mixing container, add approximately 1/2 gallon (1.89 L) of liquid per 25 lbs. (11.3 kg) of powder. Add the grout to the liquid using only a small amount of water to adjust consistency of the mortar. Allow the mortar to slake for 15 minutes, then remix. Do not retemper with liquid or powder after this point. Once the grout mortar has become too stiff to work, it must be discarded and a new batch mixed.

**▶ APPLICATION**

Grout all areas of the installation with the exact same procedure. The most consistent results can be achieved by filling the joints with grout until flush with surface of tile using a hard rubber float working diagonally across the grout joints to both fill and

compact the joints. As soon as possible, remove all excess grout with the same rubber float. The least amount of grout left at this time on the face of the tile will make the final cleanup easier. Most importantly, allow the grout to firm in the joint acquiring its initial set before any further cleaning is to be done. The grout is firm when it can only slightly be indented when pressed hard with your fingernail. Do not be concerned about dried grout on surface of tile at this time. Upon initial set of the grout, use a pad of cheese cloth or towel dampened with a minimum amount of clean cool water to clean tile surface by rubbing in a circular motion to further compact the grout. Also, clean off remaining surface grout on the tile at this time. As an alternate to the cloth pad a tool distributed by Gundloch Co. called the "Doodle Bug<sup>SM</sup>", a Scotch-Brite<sup>SM</sup> pad fastened to a float, works very well to remove grout from porous tiles. In no case is a sponge recommended for grouting. To help reduce efflorescence and control color variation, buff the tile surface and grout with a cheese cloth or clean, dry towel within 1 - 2 hours to remove all weep water and grout residue from the surface of the grout.

#### ► CURING

During the first 72 hours, care must be taken to prevent the grout from drying out by covering the installation with natural kraft paper. Plastic sheeting or newspaper should not be used. If additional water is required to maintain a moist joint on non-latex-modified grouts, it should be applied in even amounts, but in no case should standing water be allowed. During this time, it is also important to keep the installation covered with kraft paper, not polyethylene, to prevent staining and dirt being worked into the fresh grout joints by other construction trades.

#### ► FINAL CLEANING

After 10 days, the floor may be re-cleaned to remove any remaining grout from the surface of the tile. Scrubbing the floor with a hot water and soap method is best. It is not recommended that acids be used. If acid is required, a solution no stronger than 2 lbs. (.90 kg) of C-CLEAN 985 granules to 5 gallons (18.9 L) of water may be used. It is important that before the acid solution is placed on the surface, that the grout be thoroughly saturated with water first. Cleaning in this manner will most likely cause color alteration of the grout joint, the degree of which can be determined by doing a small test patch in an inconspicuous place.

#### ► SEALING AND STAINING

Sealers, waxes and stains may be used to further enhance the grout by offering richer colors and future prevention of unwanted stains. A period of at least 30 days and complete satisfaction of grout conditions should be allowed before these products are applied. Some sealers may have adverse effects on grout joints, such as softening or discoloration. Try small test area to be sure.

# CureCrylic<sup>®</sup> 938

## Acrylic Latex Admixture

CURECRYLIC 938 TECHNICAL DATA			
TEST		GROUT WITH WATER	GROUT WITH CURECRYLIC
A. Bond Strength	ANSI A118.4		
Vitreous Tile	7 Days	>300 psi (21 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	>500 psi (35 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
	28 Days	>400 psi (28 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	>700 psi (49 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
B. Compressive Strength			
ASTM C-109	7 Days	>2600 psi (183 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	>4000 psi (281 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
(air dry)	28 Days	>3500 psi (246 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )	>4500 psi (316 kg/cm <sup>2</sup> )
C. Water Absorption	ANSI A118.4	<8.0%	<4.0%
D. Safety—CAUTION: Avoid inhalation of vapors, use in well ventilated areas. Avoid contact with eyes or skin. In case of contact with eyes, flush with water and call physician immediately; for skin contact, wash with warm soapy water. If material is swallowed, call physician immediately.			
KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN			
E. Storage Life—One year if kept dry in sealed containers and protected from freezing.			

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**C-CURE**  
Seal Beach, CA 90740  
800-895-2874  
www.c-cure.com