



SUPERCAP

The Next Generation Slab™

Cold Weather Installation Considerations TDS 175S

Cement underlayments can be permanently damaged when exposed to excessively cold substrates and ambient air temperatures during application and cure time. At low temperatures early bond strength, flexural strength and compressive strength, needed to accommodate trade traffic, can take significantly longer to develop. Therefore, installations must be protected from traffic for longer than normal periods. When temperatures are at or below freezing and the water content of mortar turns into ice, there is a significant loss of strength, durability and overall performance of the underlayment.

Primer, moisture mitigation systems and other related products will also be affected by cold temperatures. Suitable ambient air and substrate conditions must be maintained for successful installations of self-leveling underlayments and most other flooring products. While ambient air temperature is extremely important it should be noted that substrate temperature, which is often ignored, is even more important and should also be closely monitored and recorded throughout the installation and cure time.

LATICRETE® SUPERCAP® applications require substrate temperature to be maintained between 40-85°F (4-29°C) and air temperature maintained between 50–90°F (10–32°C) during installation and throughout curing.

To estimate the working properties and approximate cure time a simple guideline to follow during cold temperatures is “The 18° Rule”, which states that for every 18° (10°C) below 70°F (21°C) cement, latex and epoxy based products working properties including open time, final set time, time to traffic, time to install finish flooring, etc. will be doubled.

Times shown are approximate and will vary depending upon actual job site conditions

	At 70° F (21° C)	At 52° F (11° C)	At 40° F (4° C)
Primer Dry Time	3-5 Hours	6-10 Hours	10 Hours or greater
Walkable Time	2-4 Hours	4-8 Hours	8 Hours or greater
Final Set Time	1 Hour	2 Hours	4 Hours or greater
Install Flooring	1 Day	2 Days	4 Days or greater

The following precautions may be considered to maximize the performance of LATICRETE SUPERCAP products and minimize the occurrences potential issues which can result from low temperatures;

- Plan for longer LATICRETE SUPERCAP Primer dry time and longer time to traffic for other trades.
- Store LATICRETE SUPERCAP products in a warm area for 24 hours prior to use. Ideally, products should always be stored at 70°F (21°C) for 24 hours prior to use.
- When possible, run heat in building for 24 – 48 hours prior to installation. In multiple floor buildings heat rooms directly below the floor to be installed.
- Block windows, doors and openings to help prevent heat loss.
- If LATICRETE SUPERCAP Primer becomes frozen, allow it to thaw completely before use. Allow the primer to come up to 50–90°F (10–32°C). Always stir concentrate thoroughly before diluting and again when mixed with water and immediately before use.
- Work during warmer parts of the day.
- Vent all temporary heating equipment in accord with OSHA and local building code regulations.

For more information contact your local LATICRETE SUPERCAP Representative, go to www.laticretesupercap.com or call 866-704-2247.

Technical Data Sheets subject to change without notice.
TDS 176S.doc

For latest revision, check our website at www.laticretesupercap.com
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LATICRETE SUPERCAP, LLC