LITHOCHROME® Antiquing Release

A powdered, colored bond breaker for use when imprinting concrete flatwork or cementitious toppings with mat-type texturing tools or embossing skins to create antique effects with a mottled color.

TECH-DATA BULLETIN A-854.06

1. Product Description:
LITHOCHROME® Antiquing Release is intended for use when imprinting freshly placed colored-concrete hardscapes or interior floors and an antiqued appearance is desired. It promotes easy release of stamps and texturing tools and improves results by preventing transfer of the wet paste when the tools are removed from imprinted surfaces. LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release is broadcast over the surface of freshly placed colored concrete or impruntable cementitious toppings prior to imprinting, forming a bond-breaking barrier that helps prevent the tools from sticking to the fresh concrete or topping and marring the imprinted pattern in its fragile surface. During the process, a portion of the colored antiquing release becomes embedded in the surface where it is trapped by the hardening concrete. When the surface is subsequently washed and sealed a mottled, antiqued appearance is obtained with colors ranging from that of the underlying concrete or topping to that of the antiquing release, with mixtures of the two the most likely.

For best durability and color intensity, a ready-to-use, dry-shake colored hardener is normally used as the primary coloring agent. Both LITHOCHROME® Color Hardener and EMERCHROME® Floor Hardener are recommended to produce permanently colored concrete hardscapes and floors with a dense, hard, durable surface. LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release may also be used when imprinting SCOFIELD® Texturetop® Stamp Grade System toppings. Information on color-hardening or resurfacing concrete flatwork is available in the appropriate Scofield Tech-Data Bulletin A-104 LITHOCHROME Color Hardener, A-204 EMERCHROME Floor Hardener, or C-734 SCOFIELD Texturetop Stamp Grade System.

LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release was developed for use with LITHOTEX® Pavecrafters® and will not cause degradation of the tools. LITHOTEX Pavecrafters are mat-type imprinting tools or embossing skins which improve control of pattern and depth and produce a consistent pattern depth over the entire surface of the concrete installation. Information about imprinting concrete surfaces is available in the Scofield Tech-Data Bulletin T-404 LITHOTEX Pavecrafters.

2. Coverage:
Coverage will vary depending on timing, method of finishing prior to imprinting, application techniques, effect desired, tools used, and job or other conditions. For most applications, the coverage rate is approximately 3–4 pounds per 100 square feet (1.5–2.0 kg/10 m²). A more exact coverage rate can be determined by casting representative jobsite samples as described in section 10. Jobsite Samples and noting the amount of material needed per square foot.

3. Limitations:
LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release is not intended for use on vertical surfaces or for use as a curing material. It should not be used as the primary concrete-coloring agent, but must be applied over freshly placed color-hardened or integrally colored concrete.

LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release is intended to produce a mottled appearance. Timing, finishing, application and removal techniques, mix design, texture of the imprinted pattern, color combinations, weather, experience in use of the materials, sealing and other factors will significantly affect the amount of antiquing ultimately obtained and the final appearance of the antiqued surfaces. Sample size containers of LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release are available from Scofield for investigational use.

Enough material must be applied so that moisture does not migrate to the surface, causing the texturing tool to stick. However, avoid application of an excessive amount or texture detail may be diminished. The powdered antiquing release is very finely ground and should not be applied when wind conditions are such that it may drift during broadcasting or be displaced from the surface of the concrete after application. Surrounding areas should be protected to reduce the possibility of staining during application and removal.

The bond formed between the antiquing release and the color-hardened surface is mechanical, not chemical. The application of a recommended Scofield sealer and periodic maintenance and resealing is required to seal in the antiquing release and preserve the antiqued appearance over time.

4. Composition and Materials:
LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release is a colored, finely powdered material produced by a proprietary manufacturing and intergrinding process. It is formulated to break the bond between mat-type concrete-texturing tools and the surface of color-hardened concrete while imparting an antiqued appearance. The coloring agents are limeproof and have maximum resistance to the effects of sunlight (UV).

5. Applicable Standards:
The coloring materials in LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release conform to ASTM C 979 Pigments for Integrally Colored Concrete in reference to color stability.

Professional concreting standards and practices, including those published by the American Concrete Institute (ACI) and the Portland Cement Association (PCA), should be followed.

6. Colors:
LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release is available in colors approximating all colors shown on Scofield’s Color Selection Chart A-132 and in selected colors from Scofield’s color charts A-112 LITHOCHROME Color Hardener and A-312 CHROMIX® Admixtures for Color-Conditioned® Concrete. Due to dissimilarities in composition of materials, these colors are similar to, but not an exact match for an exact color of the same name that appear on the charts. LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release cannot be formulated in some colors. With sufficient prior notification, custom colors can be designed and are manufactured per quotation. Contact your Scofield representative for availability and pricing.

Unique coloring and antiquing effects are produced by using LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release in a different and normally darker color than that of the concrete surface. If less antiquing is desired, a color that is more similar to the color of the concrete should be chosen.
7. Sizes: LITHOCROME Antiquing Release is available in 25-pound (11.3 kg) pails.

8. Storage and Shelf Life: Under normal conditions and when kept dry, the shelf life of LITHOCROME Antiquing Release is at least 1 year from the date of purchase. Inventory must be rotated to maintain product that is within shelf life limits.


First Aid: Eyes—DO NOT RUB EYES. Immediately flush thoroughly with large amounts of water. Skin—Wash thoroughly with soap and water. Remove soiled clothing and wash before reuse. Inhalation—Move to fresh air. If symptoms persist or develop, or if ingested, get medical attention.

Wash thoroughly immediately after handling. Close container after each use. Store in a cool, dry, well-ventilated area. Avoid generating dust during recovery or disposal. Disposal of all residual or recovered product must be in accordance with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. Before using or handling, read the Material Safety Data Sheet and Warranty.

10. Jobsite Samples: Representative jobsite samples must be produced and approved prior to installation. Samples must be made for each color specified and be of adequate size to be representative, a minimum of 100 square feet (10 m²). The samples should be produced by the same workers who will install the antiqued imprinted flatwork using the contemplated job materials, construction tools, and techniques. All samples should be finished, cured, antiqued, imprinted, and sealed as specified.

Producing antiqued, imprinted concrete requires skill and practice. Timing, finishing, application and removal techniques, mix design, texture of the imprinted pattern, color combinations, weather, experience in use of the materials, sealing and other factors will significantly affect the amount of antiquing ultimately obtained and the final appearance of the imprinted, antiqued surface.

Only uniformly slip-resistant imprinted textures should be chosen and approved. For safety considerations, the entire surface of the jobsite sample must be inspected after completion to verify and approve the adequacy of wet and dry slip resistance.

11. Colored Concrete Installation: Prior to placing the colored concrete substrate, representative jobsite samples should be produced and approved as described in section 10. Jobsite Samples.

Information about installing colored concrete is available in Scofield’s Tech-Data Bulletins A-104 LITHOCROME Color Hardener and A-204 EMERCHROME Floor Hardener.

12. Antiquing Release Application: Surrounding areas, landscaping, and adjacent surfaces should be protected. The work area should be roped off, nearby vehicles removed, and appropriate sections closed to traffic. Application on a still day is recommended, since the powdered antiquing release is very finely ground, and wind conditions will severely affect its application.

The required pails of LITHOCROME Antiquing Release should be distributed around the perimeter of the area to be antiqued. Immediately prior to imprinting, the antiquing release should be applied using a soft, long-bristle masonry brush to broadcast the material evenly across the surface, normally in one broadcasting operation (shake). Hand-broadcasting will cause clumps of antiquing release material to form on the concrete surface and is not recommended. To prevent drift, the antiquing release should not be broadcast from a point above knee level.

To prevent adhesion during imprinting, a complete and adequate layer of antiquing release should exist between the concrete and the mat-type texturing tool or embossing skin. Sufficient material should be applied so that the sheen disappears from the surface of the concrete, but since texture detail may be diminished, the application of an excessive amount should be avoided.

Timing is critical to successful application. If the antiquing release is applied while the slab is too plastic, more material than desired may become embedded in the concrete and be difficult or impossible to remove, causing the final color to be less true to that of the antiquing release. If the antiquing release is applied when the concrete is not plastic enough, little material will be able to combine with the concrete and most of it will be removed from the surface without producing the desired color effect. The finish applied to the surface of the concrete prior to stamping will also affect the amount of material that embeds in the concrete. Rough finishes will retain more antiquing release than flat finishes.

To reduce tracking and staining of other areas, excess antiquing release may be removed by brooming or vacuuming after imprinting and when the concrete is hard enough to walk on without marring. The concrete should be cured with new and unwrinkled, nonstaining, reinforced kraft curing paper conforming to ASTM C 171 Sheet Materials for Curing Concrete.

13. Antiquing Release Removal: To reduce tracking and staining of other areas, excess antiquing release may be removed by brooming or vacuuming the imprinted-concrete surface after it is hard enough to walk on without marring. After the imprinted concrete surface has hardened sufficiently, the remaining unembedded antiquing release should be removed with a detergent wash, followed by a thorough rinsing. Using a commercial detergent, lightly scrub the surface with a soft-bristle push broom. After scrubbing, rinse the surface thoroughly with fresh water until the rinse water is completely clean. Sufficient antiquing release should be removed to obtain the desired effect. An adequate area should be tested prior to washing and rinsing the entire surface to ensure that the concrete is strong enough to resist damage and scaling.

All surfaces must be thoroughly inspected to verify and approve installation and safety prior to opening the area to traffic.

14. Sealing: To seal and protect the surface, concrete flatwork antiqued with LITHOCROME Antiquing Release must be sealed with one of the following: SCOFIELD® Selectseal-W™, SCOFIELD® Cureseal-W™, or SCOFIELD® Cureseal-S™. Where a lower-cost seal is desired, the use of CEMENTONE® Clear Sealer may be considered. Care should be taken in preparing the surface before application of the clear sealer as the antiquing release may affect the adhesion between the sealer and the color-hardened surface, particularly if the unembedded material is not adequately removed. The appropriate Scofield Tech-Data Bulletin B-504 SCOFIELD Selectseal-W, B-204 SCOFIELD Cureseal-W, B-804 SCOFIELD Cureseal-S, or A-784 CEMENTONE Clear Sealer must be read completely before using.
For optimum performance and durability SCOFIELD Selectseal-W is recommended for sealing and protecting antiqued, imprinted flatwork. The Scofield Tech-Data Bulletin B-504 SCOFIELD Selectseal-W must be read completely before using.

All surfaces must be thoroughly inspected to verify and approve installation and safety, including wet and dry slip resistance, prior to opening the sealed surface to traffic.

15. Availability:
LITHOCHROME Antiquing Release is marketed nationwide and internationally, directly to the user through strategically located warehouses, dealers, and representatives. Contact Scofield for its nearest representative.

Scofield offers a complete line of engineered systems for coloring, texturing, and improving performance in architectural concrete. Scofield Systems address specialized requirements for interior, exterior and vertical uses with compatible systems of complementary products including coloring admixtures, color hardeners, colored cementitious toppings, stains, curing compounds, sealers, coatings, repair products and texturing tools. Visit the Scofield website at www.scofield.com for further information.

16. Warranty Summary:
For the complete warranty statement and important limitations, read the Material Safety Data Sheet and Warranty. Generally, Scofield represents and warrants only that its products are of consistent quality. No other oral or written statement is authorized. Any liability is limited to refund or replacement of defective product. The end user shall determine product’s suitability and assume all risks and liability.

Suggested Short Form Specification for Antiqued, Imprinted Concrete:
All concrete designated in the plans or specifications as having an antiqued-imprinted surface shall be color-hardened with LITHOCHROME® Color Hardener in accordance with Tech-Data Bulletin A-104, using ___________ color and a minimum coverage rate of _______ pounds per 100 square feet. The color-hardened concrete shall be antiqued with LITHOCHROME® Antiquing Release in accordance with Tech-Data Bulletin A-854 using ___________ color, or coated and imprinted using a mat-type tool such as LITHOTEX® Pavecrafters® in ___________ pattern. All antiqued, imprinted concrete shall be sealed with SCOFIELD® Selectseal-W™, SCOFIELD® Cureseal-W™, SCOFIELD® Cureseal-S™, or CEMENTONE® Clear Sealer in accordance with Tech-Data Bulletin B-504, B-204, B-604, or A-764. All products shall be manufactured by L. M. Scofield Company, (800) 800-9900, Los Angeles, CA, (323) 720-3000 and Atlanta, GA, (770) 920-6000.