

PFL Acid Gel is a gel etching solution enabling increased control and safer preparation of sloping or difficult concrete surfaces.

Description:

PFL Acid Gel is a traditional etching solution contained in a gel. The gel follows the contour of the concrete, even on vertical surfaces, allowing for excellent control of the etching process. This enables sloping surfaces can be etched evenly, with no runoff or damage to surrounding surfaces. The gel also avoids over etching low spots and under etch high spots on uneven concrete that can occur with liquid etching products. PFL Acid Gel can be applied to vertical surfaces such as pre-cast panels and the rise of steps. The gel reduces splashing, making it safer to use and reducing damage to surrounding surfaces.

Precautions:

- PFL Acid Gel is a **STRONG ACIDIC SOLUTION** and should be used with extreme care - please ensure all safety guidelines are read prior to use, and are strictly adhered to during application.
- PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner should be used in conjunction with PFL Acid Gel to control and neutralize its corrosive activity.
- All surrounding susceptible surfaces i.e. walls and joinery, should be protected during application.
- The concrete surface must be buffered with water prior to application of PFL Acid Gel.
- Uneven distribution or pooling of the acid gel can lead to differential etching.

Application:

Equipment: Broom (soft bristle), paint tray, PFL Concrete Neutralizer & Cleaner (prepared diluted solution), wet and dry vacuum cleaner (for internal floors), safety equipment (see 'Safety and Handling').

Preparation: Floor should be cleaned and any contaminated areas treated prior to application of PFL Acid Gel

- Prepare working solution of PFL Concrete Neutralizer & Cleaner.
- Ensure all susceptible surfaces i.e. walls, joinery etc, are covered to prevent damage.

Test Area: Prior to full application of PFL Acid Gel it is recommended that a small test area away from the main visual area of the floor is prepared (following instructions) to ensure that the strength of gel is appropriate. Acid Gel is available in three strengths

TYPE	STRENGTH	DESCRIPTION
Mild	2.5%	Recommended for preparation of internal floors, or areas with minimal surface laitance. Will not significantly alter the surface texture.
Medium	5%	Recommended for preparation of external surfaces, or areas with significant surface laitance. Prolonged treatment exposes sand (and eventually aggregate), increasing surface texture and changing concrete appearance.
Heavy	10%	Recommended ONLY when heavy exposure or 'Sandstone' effect is required. Will significantly alter appearance and texture of the concrete - proceed with caution!

If the concrete surface is still 'soft' (if concrete is not fully cured or poorly finished) the Acid Gel will have a more aggressive effect on the concrete surface, changing the texture and appearance of the concrete.

Always start with the weakest strength gel applicable as the process can be repeated for an increased etch.

- Conversely, if the gel is too strong and adversely alters the concrete surface, the effects are a lot more difficult to remedy, if at all!

If you are unsure about the appropriate strength of Acid Gel contact Peter Fell Ltd before proceeding.

Application continued over page...

Application (continued):

- While PFL Acid Gel enables controlled etching of concrete surfaces, care should still be taken to prevent collateral degradation of other surrounding surfaces.
 - All walls, skirting, and metal joinery should be protected while other peripheral surfaces should be pre-treated with PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner.
- Pour acid gel into a paint tray (or similar size container)
 - Ensure the paint tray/container is placed on a tray or sheet of polythene to prevent any spillage onto the concrete surface while working.
 - Care must also be taken when taking broom/brush from bucket to avoid drips or spills.
- Wet down area with clean water, making sure water is ALWAYS visible on the surface where the Acid Gel is applied.
 - Do not use excess water and avoid pooling as this will reduce the action of the Acid Gel.
- Using a soft bristle broom, spread the Acid Gel evenly on the concrete surface.
 - Start at one end of the area and work to the other end to avoid walking in the acid gel.
 - Start in the middle of broom stroke, and work evenly over the surface - avoid pooling!

Uneven distribution or pooling can lead to uneven etching!

- Once the area has been evenly coated with the gel, treat area with diluted solution of PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner - leave on surface for a few minutes (solution turns 'milky' in patches).
 - On internal floors, use a wet and dry vacuum cleaner to remove the neutralized residue.
 - On external surfaces, broom (and hose) to clean the neutralised residue from the surface.
- The floor can be treated again using diluted Neutralizer & Cleaner to ensure the floor is properly cleaned prior to sealing.
- The surface should then be rinsed with excess clean water until all Neutralizer & Cleaner is removed from the surface - no bubbles or foaming with hosing and no residual material present when the surface dries.
 - Clean internal floors with clean water, vacuum surface, and repeat if necessary to insure all residual material is removed prior to commencement of sealing.

Coverage: Approximately 2-4m²/L. Coverage will vary depending on the concrete texture and finish.

Cleanup: All equipment used should be neutralized and cleaned with appropriately diluted solution of PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner. Ensure PFL Acid Gel is NOT disposed of down drains or waterways.

Safety and Handling:

Hazard: PFL Acid Gel is a STRONGLY ACIDIC solution and extremely corrosive, capable of causing burns to skin. EXTREME CARE must be taken. For full safety information refer to MSD sheet available from Peter Fell Ltd.

UN Number: 1789

DG Number: 8

Hazchem code: 2(R)

Active Ingredient: Hydrogen Chloride (CAS 7647-01-0)

Safety: Wear suitable protective clothing, impervious footwear, eye protection, protective gloves, and respirator.

Pack Sizes: 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 L.

Storage: Store in cool, dry, well ventilated place in original container. Store out of reach of children. Store away from direct sunlight, oxidizing agents (e.g. nitrates, peroxides, hypochlorites), other acids, anionic detergents (e.g. soap), heat sources and foodstuffs. Ensure container is sealed when not in use, and checked regularly for leaks or spills. Do not allow vapours to collect in enclosed spaces. PFL Acid Gel can be stored for up to 12 months.

First Aid:

Swallowed: DO NOT induce vomiting. Give water or milk to drink. Obtain medical attention immediately. If patient becomes unconscious treat for 'Inhalation' below.

Eyes: Immediately flood with copious quantities of water, holding eye open if necessary, for at least 15 minutes. Seek urgent medical attention.

Skin: Remove contaminated clothing and shoes and wash skin thoroughly with excess water. If irritation occurs or persists, seek medical attention. Launder clothing and clean shoes before re-use.

Inhalation: Remove patient from exposure, keep warm and at rest. If there is respiratory distress, give oxygen. If respiration is failing, apply artificial respiration. Seek immediate medical attention.

Physical and Chemical Properties:

Appearance..... blue gel
Odour..... mild 'acidic' odour
Solubility.....miscible with water in all proportions
Reactivity..... highly corrosive to most metals with evolution of hydrogen gas.
.....reacts violently with alkali
.....reacts with sodium hypochlorite to evolve chlorine
Specific Gravity.....1.15 kg/L

Product Warranty

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