

Ugly, Unsightly, Unnecessary

Efflorescence is caused by calcium compound found in concrete and mortar making it to the surface. If you catch it right away, it washes off with just a spray of water. But quickly, these minerals react with the air to form a hard to remove dis-coloration. This wall could have been sealed with ConBlock SH for pennies per square foot. If it was sealed, the calcium compound would not have made it to the surface. It would look brand new.

NOW: PENN DOT APPROVED FOR BRIDGES PREVENT CHLORIDE DAMAGE

Salt Proof Concrete?

Sidewalks, parking areas, roadways, and steps made of concrete are notoriously vulnerable to de-icing salts. Concrete Sealants, Inc. has a new product which promises to solve the problem. ConBlock SH is a pentrating, reactive surface treatment that reacts with the Calcium Hydroxide in concrete and forms silicate chrystals that fill the pores in concrete. Imagine a bucket of golf balls. If you pour water on it, the water goes right through the balls. Imagine further, that we add a treatment that reacts with golf balls and forms a hard gel. Then, when you pour the water, it sheds right off. That is how ConBlock SH works with concrete. In 7-14 days the chemical reaction fills in the spaces of the concrete, where water would be able to enter.

Salt doesn't hurt concrete by itself. They are still hauling concrete out of the Mediterranean that Romans made thousands of years ago. Bridge pilings, made of concrete, cross the Chesapeake at Virginia beach. They are just fine after all these years. But, when salt water enters the concrete, and it gets cold enough, the salt water freezes and expands, breaking the concrete at the surface.



Sam Lines treated part of his concrete driveway. He poured the ConBlock SH and moved it around with a broom.. He ran out of ConBlock SH as he got near to the house. Only a part of the sidewalk got treated. A year later, the treated part is like new. Sam calls it the "Fountain of Youth for concrete." Somehow, the treated concrete is cleaner. Sam believes, that the denser concrete doesn't allow the "gunk" to even sit on the surface. It gets washed off with every rain. He did not clean the concrete before application, what happened to the gunk that was on the old concrete? He does not know, perhaps it is part of the crystal structure.



Where he missed is very evident on the sidewalk. The treated part of the drive is much cleaner that the untreated surface. He figures he used about one gallon per 125 sq. ft.

ASTM C-672 standard test method for scaling resistance of concrete surfaces exposed to deicing chemicals, calls for repeated cycles of freeze-thaw with heavy doses of deicer. In this case, two blocks were tested. One was treated with ConBlock SH, the other was not. Concrete from one batch was used to make both blocks. After 100 cycles, one block is so deeply spalled, that the aggregate is completely exposed. The treated block is barely affected.

Imagine concrete steps that do not break down when you use deicer! Once the ConBlock SH penetrates and reacts, it is invisible. The surface is not shiny, nor slippery. It just sheds water. The salt water cannot penetrate, so the steps do not spall.







Bridge, Rt 73, Schwenksville, PA

This can be prevented for pennies per square foot!



April 2012: \$20.00 per gallon in 50 gallon drums. Precasters' discount applies.

Also in one gallon and five gallon pails. Apply with low pressure garden sprayer.

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