



Surface finish on concrete roofing tiles

The majority of concrete roof tiles manufactured around the world are surface treated, and there are several roofing benefits achieved by doing so, including the following:-

- 1 Minimises water loss during the critical early cement hydration stage to allow improved concrete strengths.
- 2 Protects the surface from rain water erosion and corrosion (acid rain) during the critical early life period.
- 3 Minimises dust and dirt and inhibits lichen/moss contamination during the early life.
- 4 Minimises the risk of surface salts and efflorescence formation during the critical early life of the product.
- 5 Minimises the variation in colour between product batches and ages, particularly main tiles and fittings, ie "Chequer board effect".
- 6 Reduces the effect of scuffing which occurs during handling and transportation.
- 7 Enhances the intensity of the tile colours.
- 8 Increases rain and snow dissipation rate from the roof.
- 9 Reduces surface water capillarity, giving improved performance.
- 10 Prolongs the effective life of the cement/pigment rich tile surface.
- 11 Enhances the perceived visual effect of the tile profile by favourably modifying the tile surface reflectivity.

Surface treatment protects the concrete tile during the early, critical stages of the products life. But it is recognised in the roofing industry that the surface coating of a concrete roof tile is temporary, albeit lasting for several years; long enough to give that valuable, early-life protection.

Sandtoft smooth-faced tiles are through-coloured, therefore the tile will retain colour for a long period after the surface colour has weathered away. But, it is accepted that the colour of a concrete roof tile is actually starting to change almost as soon as it is laid on the roof.

Concrete roofing tiles have been widely used in the UK since the 1930's, and are a popular form of roof covering. Concrete is a cost effective and very stable material and has been proven to be a very reliable form of roof tile. Sandtoft roof tiles are guaranteed to remain durable for a period of 60 years.

For more information please contact Sandtoft Technical Support on 0870 145 2021.

March 06