

# METHOD STATEMENT

## RAPIDFIX

Issue Date  
DECEMBER 2016



### General Purpose Method Statement

#### 1. Labour

Application of **TAL Rapidfix** Patching and Repair Compound is a skilled operation and should only be carried out by experienced artisans with the correct training. Application by unskilled labour is not recommended.

#### 2. Tools & Equipment Required

Broom & Heavy Duty Vacuum Cleaner  
Mechanical Mixer, ie minimum 1.1KW drill with suitable paddle mixer  
Large Clean Container for mixing  
600mm Extended Straight Edge Steel Trowel  
Builders Block Brush  
TAL Floor Primer – primer for rough, porous surfaces  
TAL Floorkey + TAL Rapidfix – primer for smooth, dense surfaces  
TAL Screedbinder - additive

#### 3. Surface Preparation

**Allow all new concrete work and screeds to cure for at least 6 weeks and 4 weeks respectively before proceeding. The substrate must attain a moisture content of 5% (75% RH) or less before the TAL Rapidfix application can be commenced.**

**TAL Rapidfix** is suitably designed for application onto concrete and screeded substrates. Any Screeding or Topping must be firmly bonded to the underlying concrete, and the substrate must be of sufficient strength, with a minimum acceptable compressive strength of 25MPa and tensile strength of 1.5N/mm<sup>2</sup>. The substrate must be integrally sound (no crumbling, cracking, etc) and of a quality and consistency suitable for screeding. TAL cannot be held liable should the **TAL Rapidfix** installation be compromised as a result of failure or debonding (cohesive failure) occurring within the subsurface.

The substrate must be clean and dry and free from all traces of surface laitance and contamination such as dust, dirt, waxes, oils, bitumen, old adhesives, paint, grease, weak cement screeds, shutter release and curing agents, sealing compounds, etc.

Bituminous compounds must be removed completely. Organic or fungal growth must be removed and the spores killed using an effective fungicide.

#### 4. Substrate Priming

The floor must be thoroughly swept to remove all traces of dust and loose particles, taking care to remove the dust rather than redistribute it. (Vacuuming is preferred.)

**The substrate must attain a moisture content of 5% (75% RH) or less before proceeding.**

- **Woodfloated (rough, porous) Surfaces** - Prime the surface with a liberal coat of **TAL Floor Primer**, ensuring that the entire surface is covered with the priming coat.
- **Powerfloated / Steelfloated (smooth, dense) Surfaces** - Prime the surface with a slurry consisting of 1 part **TAL Floorkey** mixed with 2 parts **TAL Rapidfix** powder (by volume) which is applied by block brush, ensuring complete coverage of the substrate.

**TAL Rapidfix** must be applied when the priming coat is dry and well anchored to the substrate.

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### 5. Mixing

Add 20kg **TAL Rapidfix** to the required amount of clean, cool water (5 litres for horizontal applications, and 4 litres for vertical applications) while stirring slowly with an electric drill of minimum 1.1 Kilowatts with a suitable mixing paddle attachment, and mix until the desired trowelable paste is achieved, which must be smooth and lump-free. Allow the mixture to stand for 3 minutes, then stir again (shear thinning). **The temperature of the water must be between 15 - 25°C when mixed with TAL Rapidfix.** Stir occasionally whilst in use.

**Do not mix up more than can be used in 20 – 30 minutes. For best results use a full bag in one mix.**

**TAL Screedbinder must replace the water in the mix for all exterior and/or 'wet' applications (showers, etc), where possible ingress of water or building movement is expected, and for heavy traffic areas.**

#### **NOTE :**

- **Never add more liquid to a mix which has been left standing for too long (retempering), as this will compromise the integrity of the product.**
- **Warm weather may shorten the working time of the mixture.**
- **Extreme cold conditions will slow the setting time of the mortar.**
- **It is important that TAL Rapidfix is not overwatered when mixing, and that it is not 'watered' after it has been applied.**

### 6. Application (Maximum Individual Application Area 1.0m<sup>2</sup>)

After mixing **TAL Rapidfix** is useable for approximately 30 minutes, as follows :

- Apply the paste to the area using a steel trowel and work to a smooth, level surface.
- **TAL Rapidfix** can be applied from featheredge (1mm) up to 50mm in a single operation.
- Should a further build be required it is advisable to allow the first application to dry overnight.
- The **TAL Rapidfix** installation should be protected from too-rapid hydrating by covering with PVC cover sheets immediately after application, and must be protected from other building operations and trades until fully cured.

### 7. Drying Times & Surface Finish

**The TAL Rapidfix installation should be protected from building operations and other trades until fully cured.**

The surface can be subjected to **light** foot traffic after 3 hours Floor coverings can be fixed after 12 - 24 hours, depending on application thickness and ambient conditions.

Before floor coverings are installed it is the **Flooring Contractor's responsibility** to thoroughly inspect the **TAL Rapidfix** installation and confirm that it is integrally sound and does not show signs of Overwatering and Product Separation;

The surface must be thoroughly swept to remove all traces of dust and loose particles before installing any floor coverings. (Vacuuming is preferred.) Contamination on the substrate may have an adverse effect on both the finish and long term performance of the floor covering.

Variation in colour can occur due to the laying technique used (ie trowel marks and water marks).

### 8. Approximate Coverage

1.85kg / m<sup>2</sup> / 1mm thickness.

Actual coverages will be determined by site conditions, workmanship, etc.

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### 9. Packaging

20kg Bags

### 10. Shelf Life & Storage

12 months from date of manufacture when stored in dry internal conditions between 10°C and 30°C and out of direct sunlight. To protect from damp never store directly on a concrete floor.

### 11. Limitations

Do not mix with more than 5 litres of water (or **TAL Screedbinder**)

Never add more liquid to a mix which has been left standing for too long (retempering) as this will compromise the integrity of the screed

Water temperature must be between 15 - 25°C

Do not mix by hand.

Do not part mix; use only full bags.

Do not apply in rain or wet conditions or at temperatures below 10°C.

Do not expose to running water or service conditions until the product is cured fully.

### 10. Health and Safety

This product is for use only by trained operatives. It is potentially hazardous if not used correctly. Please refer to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) prior to the purchase and use of this product. E-mail [taltech@tal.co.za](mailto:taltech@tal.co.za) or call 0860 000 825 for a copy of the MSDS.

Do not ingest.

Operatives should use barrier creams when handling cementitious materials. Care should be taken not to allow cementitious products to come into contact with skin.

Operatives should use the following Personal Protection Equipment :

- Eye protection (goggles)
- Gloves
- Dust Mask
- Rubber soled safety shoes
- Coveralls
- Safety helmet

Work in well-ventilated areas.

When using electrical equipment such as mixers ensure that they are properly fused and earthed with the correct plug and sockets fitted.

Do not use electrical equipment if it will come into contact with water.

**Dispose of this product in accordance with local regulations.**

### 11. Authorized Technical Specialist

Please note that only TAL Authorized Technical Specialists are permitted to change any of the information in this data sheet or to provide written recommendations concerning the use of this product.

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### 12. Product Guarantee

TAL products are manufactured and tested in accordance with TAL procedures, which are maintained in line with Quality Control System Standard ISO 9001 : 2008 and Environmental Management System ISO 14001:2004. TAL products are guaranteed to be free from manufacturing defects and fit for design purposes.

This guarantee is subject to the performance of TAL products when used strictly in accordance with their materials and methods specifications for the particular project, and where good workmanship is followed. However, we have no influence over specific site conditions and therefore, if in doubt, the user must always carry out sufficient tests to satisfy himself/herself that the product is suitable for the intended purpose. In special cases, obtain professional advice.

TAL cannot be held responsible for the standard of workmanship on site, or any problems caused by unsound structures or foundations, building movement (cracking, creep, deflection, vibration, etc), design defects, earth tremor or other seismic disturbances, etc, or any products which have been adulterated, contaminated or misused in any way. The aforementioned list is not exhaustive.

**NOTE** : we require timeous notification, *in writing*, of an alleged defect and the opportunity to assess and investigate the problem to our satisfaction prior to any remedial work whatsoever being carried out.