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## CONCRETE SURFACE PREPARATION

Proper surface preparation opens the pores of the surface and increases profile, (tooth) facilitating penetration and mechanical adhesion of the coating system.

Laitance will always compromise adhesion, especially with water-borne paints and must always be removed.

Conditions to consider prior to painting, sealing or applying decorative treatments are:

- Age & condition of the concrete
- Presence of laitance, curing compound oils, etc.
- Service to which the surface will be exposed
- Maintenance schedule requirements

## SURFACE PREPARATION & TREATMENT COMPARISON

<b>Gelled Acid</b>	<b>Liquid Acid</b>	<b>Abrasive Blasting</b>
Environmentally and end user safer Complete control	Dangerous for environment & end user No control	Blasts pollutants and silica dust into the atmosphere No control
Extremely easy to use	Difficult to acquire consistency	Difficult to acquire expertise
Ready to use – Do not dilute	Must be diluted and ratio varies	Requires extensive training
No special equipment		Expensive equipment
No silica dust pollution No noise pollution	Environmentally dangerous	Silica dust pollution Noise pollution Environmental issues
Can be used indoors & outdoors, large/small jobs, new/old concrete	Requires extra care for indoor use	Difficult to use on smaller & indoor jobs
Can be used on horizontal, vertical and inverted surfaces	Cannot be used on vertical or inverted surfaces	Cannot be used on vertical or inverted surfaces
No substrate damage	Causes substrate damage	Can cause substrate damage