COLOR RELEASE is a very fine colored powder formulated for use in the texture stamping of concrete flatwork. COLOR RELEASE enhances the tools ability to reproduce the fine textures of stone, slate, wood, etc. in concrete by forming a dry interface between the concrete and the stamping tools during installation and imparting color to the finish surface. COLOR RELEASE is applied to the surface of the concrete just prior to the placement of the stamping tools. COLOR RELEASE color selections are approximate shades not exact matches. We suggest a sample be made using actual job materials and finishing techniques before making final color selections. Manufacturing quality and consistency is assured by strict control of blending of the different components in their proper proportions.

Coverage Rates: Coverage rates will vary due to concrete finishing techniques, job conditions and the type of texture tools used. Generally 2.5 to 3 lbs. per 100 sq. ft. is adequate, up to but no more than 5 lbs should be necessary. Coverage will vary depending on timing, method of finishing prior to imprinting, application techniques, effect desired, tools used, and job or other conditions.

Description and Uses: Color Release is broadcast over the surface of freshly placed colored-concrete hardscapes or interior floors before imprinting with texturing tools or rollers. It forms a bond-breaking barrier that helps prevent the tools from sticking to the fresh concrete and marring its fragile surface. During the process, a portion of the Colored release becomes embedded in the surface where it is trapped by the hardening concrete. When the surface is subsequently washed and sealed, an attractive, variegated, mottled, and antiqued appearance is obtained with colors ranging from that of the underlying concrete to that of the antiquing release, with mixtures of the two the most likely.

To protect the antiqued appearance from wearing or weathering away over time, the imprinted concrete must be sealed and maintained with clear sealer. It produces an attractive, low-maintenance, semi-gloss film that is resistant to abrasion, many chemicals, and surface staining. Joints should be sealed with calking in a blending color to provide harmonious transitions at the joint lines and allow the beauty of the design to dominate and to keep excess water from getting under the slab to help resist soil expansion or cracking due to it.

Limitations: Color release is not intended for use on vertical surface or for use as a curing material. It should not be used as the primary concrete-coloring agent, but must be applied over freshly placed color-hardened or integrally colored concrete. Color release is intended to produce a variegated appearance. Timing, finishing, application and removal techniques, mix design, texture of the imprinted pattern, color combinations, weather, experience in use of the materials, sealing and other factors will significantly affect the amount of antiquing ultimately obtained and the final appearance of the antiqued surfaces. Enough material must be applied so that moisture does not migrate to the surface, causing the texturing tool or roller to stick. The powdered color release is very finely ground and should not be applied when wind conditions are such that it may drift during broadcasting or be displaced from the surface of the concrete after application. Surrounding areas should be protected to reduce the possibility of staining during application.
Applicable Standards: The coloring materials in color release conforms to ASTM C 79 for color stability. Professional concreting standards and practices, including those published by the American Concrete Association, should be followed. See Application below.

Available Colors: Color release is available from stock in colors approximating selected colors from the OnCrete Products Color Chart. Due to dissimilarities in composition of materials, these colors are similar to, but not an exact match for colors. Unique coloring and antiquing effects are produced by using Color Release in a different and normally darker color than that of the concrete surface. If less antiquing is desired, a color that is more similar to the color of the concrete should be chosen.

Product Sizes: Color Release is available in 28 pound pails.

Shelf life: under normal conditions and when kept dry, the shelf life of antiquing release is at least one year from the date of purchase. Inventory should be rotated.

Cautions: Do not breath dust. Do not take internally. Keep out of the reach of children. Use with adequate ventilation, dust mask (niosh/msha tc 21c approved), safety goggles, and gloves are recommended.

First Aid: Eyes-do not rub eyes. Immediately flush thoroughly with plenty of water. Skin-Wash thoroughly with soap and water. Remove soiled clothing. Inhalation: Move to fresh air. If symptoms persist or develop, or if ingested, get medical attention. Wash thoroughly immediately after handling. Close container after each use.

Color Release Application: Surrounding areas, landscaping, and adjacent surfaces should be protected. The work area should be roped off, nearby vehicles removed, and appropriate sections closed to traffic. Application on a still day is recommended, since the powdered color release is very finely ground, and wind conditions will severely affect its application. The required pails of Color Release should be distributed around the perimeter of the area to be antiqued. Immediately prior to imprinting, the color release should be hand-broadcasted evenly across the surface by the dry-shake method, normally in one broadcasting operation (shake). To prevent drifting, the antiquing release should not be broadcast for above knee level or for more than a few feet, less under windy conditions. To prevent adhesion during imprinting, a complete and adequate layer of antiquing release should exist between the concrete and the mat-type texturing tool or roller. Sufficient material should be applied so that the sheen disappears from the surface of the concrete, but sine texture details may be diminished, the application of an excessive amount should be avoided. Timing is critical to successful application. If the antiquing release is applied while the slab is too plastic, more material than desired may become embedded in the concrete and difficult or impossible to remove, causing the final color to be mostly that of the antiquing release. If the antiquing release is applied when the concrete is not plastic enough, little material will be able to combine with the concrete and most of it will be remove from the surface without producing the desired color effect. The finish applied to the surface of the concrete prior to stamping will also affect the amount of material that embeds in the concrete. Rough finishes will retain more antiquing release than flat finishes.

Color Release Removal: After the imprinted concrete has been installed for a minimum of 1-10 days, the remaining unembedded antiquing release should be removed by a thorough rinsing off. Followed by washing with a high pressure water sprayer, or a carpet back or pad scrub, depending on desired finish. An adequate area should be tested prior to washing and rinsing the entire surface to insure that the concrete is strong enough to resist damage and scaling. Sufficient color release should be removed to obtain the desired effect. Care should be taken so that adjacent surfaces are not stained, and runoff should be controlled in accordance with local, state, and federal regulations. All surfaces should be thoroughly inspected to verify and approve installation and safety prior to opening the area to traffic.