

## Products for the Professional

### Product Data Sheet

# Gypfix

#### Description

Nicobond Gypfix is a rapid setting, white, gypsum based tile adhesive specially designed for fixing ceramic, porcelain and natural stone tiles to Anhydrite/Calcium Sulphate floors. It is designed for use in interior, dry situations and should not be subjected to immersion in water.

#### Uses

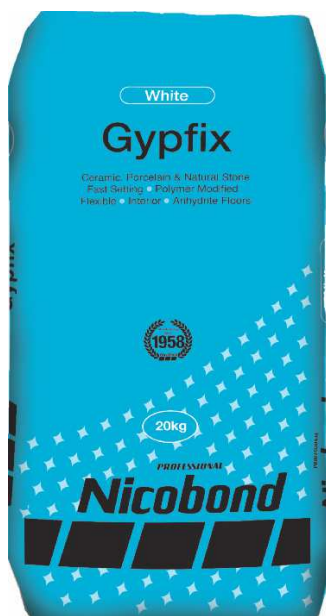
Nicobond Gypfix is a high strength adhesive which achieves levels of bond strength on a par with traditional C2 category cement based adhesives. The product performs exceptionally well with undertile heating and other forms of UFH (under floor heating). In the majority of cases priming is not required – there is no risk of Ettringite with this product. Nicobond Gypfix is easy to mix and apply and is suitable for all formats of tiles.

#### Features

- 100% compatibility with Anhydrite Screeds
- Tested in conjunction with Lafarge Gyvlon
- No priming required
- Suitable for floors with up to 75% RH (0.5% by weight)
- Rapid bond strength development
- Long open time
- Thin or thick applications
- Easy to mix and apply

#### Application Data

Colour	White
Mixing Ratio (water only)	Mixing Ratio (water only) Approx 2.5 - 3 volumes of powder to 1 volume of water. (20kg to approx 5 – 5.2 litres water).
Mixing	Quantities up to 5Kg may be mixed by hand. For larger quantities, use a Nicobond whisk in a slow speed electric drill and mix to a smooth consistency, use immediately.
Consistency of mix	Smooth paste
Bed thickness	Up to 12 mm
Coverage	Solid bed for floors: 4 – 4.5kg per m <sup>2</sup> at 3mm thick. 8 – 9 kg per m <sup>2</sup> at 6mm thick.
Pot Life	Approx 45 minutes at 20°C
Open Time	Approx 20 minutes at 20°C 60%RH
Adjustability Time	Approx 15 minutes at 20°C 60%RH
Setting time	Approx 4 hours at 20°C 60%RH. Lower temperatures and use of large format porcelain tiles may extend setting time.
Grouting After Fixing	Approx 18 – 24 hours at 20°C 60%RH
Application	Internal only
Installation Temperature	Minimum 5°C - 25°C
Operating Temperature	- 20°C to 80°C
Packaging	20kg



Formulated for use on  
Gyvlon Screeds



The adhesive shall be Nicobond Gypfix as manufactured by N&C Building Products Limited, 41-51 Freshwater Road, Chadwell Heath, Romford, Essex, RM8 1SP, England. Tel: 020 8586 4600 and shall be applied strictly in accordance with the Manufacturer's current data sheets and instructions.



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### Priming

Nicobond Gypfix is suitable for direct bonding to Anhydrite/Calcium Sulphate floors having a relative humidity of up to 75% without priming. However, on highly absorbent surfaces priming may be required. If the surface is slightly weak and dusty after sanding, priming is also recommended. Use Nicobond Primer diluted with water in the ratio of 4 parts water to 1 part Primer by volume. Mix well and brush or roll evenly on to the Anhydrite screed.

Primers should be used in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions – refer to Nicobond Primer data sheet.

### Surface Preparation

The Anhydrite/ Calcium Sulphate floor surface to be tiled should be rigid, dimensionally stable, sound, clean and free from laitance or any other loose particles which may affect adhesion. The surface should be abraded by using sanding equipment or contained shot blasting equipment. Sanding is generally carried out using an industrial orbital sander fitted with a carborundum disk (typically 60's grit) and suitable dust extraction. Due to the fine nature of the laitance it may be necessary to use several grades of carborundum to avoid clogging of the finer disks. Strongly adhered laitance may require the use of an abrasive copper disk followed by the use of a finer carborundum disk to produce the desired effect. The floor should always be vacuumed to ensure any remaining dust residues or other friable material have been completely removed.

### Underfloor Heating

Underfloor heating should be commissioned in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer. Anhydrite screeds can be force dried after 7 days using the following procedure. Raise the system water temperature in 4 - 5°C increments from ambient up to 20 - 25°C, maintain for a minimum of 3 days and then gradually increase the temperature again in 4 - 5°C increments up to the planned maximum operating temperature which should be maintained for a further 4 days. (water temperature should not exceed 55°C for Calcium Sulphate Screed) prior to returning to ambient temperature in readiness to receive floor finishes.

The screed should be tested for moisture according to BS8203:2001+A1:2009. The recommended methods are **Hair/Electronic Hygrometer** – The test is non destructive and provides reliable results for a relative humidity of 75%. **Carbide Bomb** – Destructive but gives a direct measurement of moisture content. **Oven Drying** - Time consuming but also gives a direct measurement. **Note – Electronic metres are not suitable for accurate determination of the moisture content of calcium sulphate screeds.**

### Movement Joints

In many cases Calcium Sulphate screeds incorporate Underfloor heating and particular attention must be paid to the siting of Movement Joints.

Structural joints must be followed through to the tile surface.

Perimeter joints must be installed where the wall abuts the floor and around any columns or permanent fixtures.

Intermediate joints should be installed to ensure the bay sizes are not greater than 40m<sup>2</sup>, are square or rectangular and with the width to length ratio not exceeding 5 to 8.

Movement Joints should also be inserted as a bay joint to isolate areas of screed with separately controlled heating circuits.

At doorway thresholds and at junctions between heated and unheated sections of the screed.

### Mixing

Prepare the adhesive in a clean mixing bucket. Vessels containing either gypsum or cement based residues may interfere with the setting process.

### Floor Tiling

The mixed adhesive should be applied with the straight edge of the Nicobond Notched Trowel up to a depth of approximately 3mm. Lightly comb the top surface of the adhesive using the notched edge of the Trowel. Do not press the trowel through the full depth of the adhesive otherwise full contact cannot be achieved. Tiles may also be bedded in using the buttering method. The mixed adhesive should be applied with the straight edge of the Nicobond Notched Trowel up to a depth of approximately 3mm and lightly combed through. Adhesive is also then spread on the back of the tiles which are then positioned onto the base layer of adhesive.

### Bonding of the Tiles

Fix dry tiles immediately by pressing them firmly into position with a slight sliding or twisting action and tamped firmly or pressed home to ensure solid bedding without voids. Floors should not be opened to traffic until the adhesive has hardened. From time to time remove a tile to check that full contact has been made with the adhesive bed. Where fixing is carried out in hot conditions, the finished tiling should be protected from direct sunlight to avoid premature drying.

### Tile Fixing

Tile fixing should be carried out in accordance with BS 5385 and BS 8000 Codes of Practice for the installation of floor tiles and also with the TTA publication "Tiling to Calcium Sulphate Screeds". Movement joints should be inserted in internal corners, at floor perimeters and other locations as recommended in relevant British codes of practice.

### Commissioning of Heating after Tile Fixing

On completion of tile fixing and grouting allow a period of minimum 7 days for the adhesive and grout to cure before turning on the underfloor or undertile heating.

**Note** – In all cases work in small areas of about 1m<sup>2</sup> with this fast setting adhesive to avoid premature drying before tiles are fixed.

NB: This adhesive should not be used in areas subject to immersion or prolonged exposure to water.



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**Shelf Life**

- 12 months in unopened bags from the date of packing.

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**Storage**

- This product must be clear of the ground stored under dry conditions.

**Cleaning**

- During application, any residual adhesive must be washed from the face of tiles before it sets.
- Wash tools in water immediately after use.

**Health & Safety Advice**

- Irritating to eyes and skin. Harmful by inhalation. Wear suitable protective clothing, gloves and eye/face protection. Keep away from children.
- The relevant Material Safety Data Sheet can be obtained from [www.nicnicobond.com](http://www.nicnicobond.com) or directly from N & C Building Products Ltd at the address below.

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