

CTU Online Anytime Module 2.2 – Improved Modified Mortars

Key Takeaways

- Because tile is permanent, it is important to evaluate a contractor on qualifications and not just price.

- By changing the polymer content in mortar, the following properties can be adjusted:
 - Flexibility
 - Water absorption
 - Resistance to shock, seismic movement, thermal cycling, etc.

- Mortar specification is key to the success of a project
 - Improved modified mortars utilize polymers to increase performance
 - Thermal cycling of tile systems – Accommodating expansion requires flexible mortar
 - ANSI A118.15 Improved mortars have:
 - High polymer content
 - Better adhesion
 - Less Water Absorption
 - Greater Impact Resistance
 - >400 psi bond strength
 - Thermal expansion values are unique to the type of tile
 - When tiles expand and contract, they put stress on bonds between the mortar and the tile as well as the mortar and substrate
 - Polymer in the mortar will help with flexibility, allowing the mortar to accommodate movement
 - Ceramic tile is porous while porcelain tile is non-porous
 - ANSI A137.1 outlines water absorption values of the different types of tile
 - Polymer modified mortar is needed to properly bond porcelain tile
 - CUSTOM FlexBond Premium Crack Prevention Thin-Set Mortar is perfect for surfaces that are difficult to bond
 - A premium quality, improved polymer modified mortar with exceptional flexibility and bond strength
 - Ideal for surfaces such as plywood, vinyl and laminates and for hard-to-bond, non-porous tile, such as porcelain and glass

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