

### **Day Joints**

Day joints are positions where the screed has been finished on one day and will be carried on the next day. In these positions, to avoid cracking the joint needs to be reinforced with mesh to bond the screed together. Alternatively an expansion joint could be fitted in this position.

### **Floor tiles, marble floors, stone floors**

Where the screed is to be finished with a rigid tile, marble or stone topping the expansion provisions are very important as screed movement can crack the floor finish. The flooring should be designed by the floor installer detailing expansion provision in the floor tiles themselves. This can then be mirrored with a separate bedding layer with expansion joints or in the screed below.

Alternatively, a de-bonded bedding layer for the floor finishes can be installed above the screed.

### **Screed level and surface flatness**

All screeds have to be installed to a British Standard of level and flatness.

*Flatness* –the variation in gap under a straightedge placed anywhere on the surface to be not more than the following.

A- 10 mm under a 2mtr straightedge--SR3

B- 5 mm under a 2mtr straightedge—SR2 #

C- 3 mm under a 2mtr straightedge—SR1

# In general use

Permitted level tolerance from floor datum +/- 15 mm

### **Reinforcing Mesh**

In sand cement type screeds the use of D49 mesh or chicken wire or an SBR slurry consisting of polymer, cement and water can be used to reinforce the screed to avoid cracking. In areas where a number of underfloor circuits can come together such as some manifold locations, or where the screed is below the recommended thickness, the screed should be reinforced by the installation of D49 mesh, at mid point in the screed, over the underfloor pipework.

### **Screed Treatment for finishes**

If an adhesive or other finish is to be applied to the screed, it may not be able to be applied directly; a sealer may be required first. Always check with adhesive/finish manufacturer.

**Remember-** No concrete floor will be flat and level on a building site, so it is best do a level floor survey to ensure enough depth above the floor slab is available for the underfloor heating and screed. When specifying screed depths, ensure the minimum specified depth allows for some intolerance in the floor slab.

**Protection-**Screeds are not a wearing floor finish and should always be protected until floor covering is fitted.

**Screed Moisture Testing-**moisture testing of modern screeds must be done using a **Carbide Bomb Tester** not an electrical resistance type –these can be obtained from the Flexidry shop if required [www.flexidry.shop.com](http://www.flexidry.shop.com) Tel 0845 555 5656

Always contact the screed manufacturer for specific requirements.