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Close

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Laitance and Anhydrite Calcium Screeds

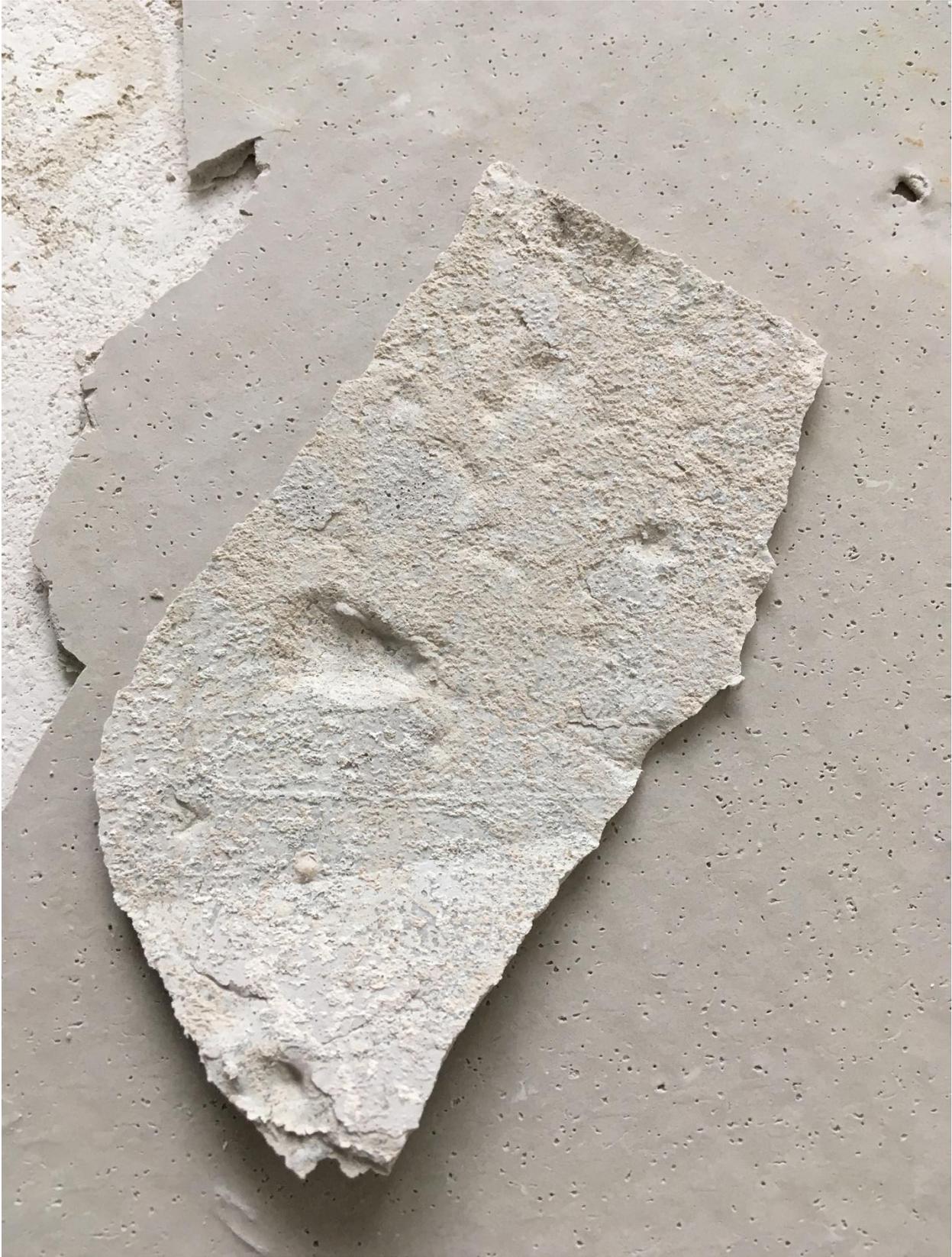
The images below show what happens if the laitance is not removed properly. There is an explanation below each image showing what should and should not be done. If the laitance is not removed completely the screed will never dry out and after time will break down. We hope this document helps explain why there are so many problems with these screeds and any flooring that goes on top. This would include wood flooring, ceramic tiles, vinyl and any other type of floor.



Removing the Laitance Surface.



If this is not removed, then the screed cannot breathe. You must NEVER apply a vapour barrier or damp proof membrane to these types of screeds. If you fully bond a floor, then the laitance is likely to “pull away” from the screed below and you will get a hollow sounding floor.



This shows the underside of the Laitance.



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Here you can see an engineered wood floor where it “sweated” due to the floor being covered whilst the underfloor heating was on and a floor where the laitance had not been removed.



The image above shows what happens to wood flooring when the laitance is not removed. As you can see there was a lot of moisture left in the screed and then the board was lifted it shows that some of the Laitance came away (white powder type) as the adhesive could not bond properly and there was a hollow sound when tapping the board.

You will also find a CPD regarding subfloors from Sika in the Technical Library.

For further advice on screeds and subfloors please contact us on 01666 504015

