



STRATA_MAT™ and LATICRETE®

Mortars

TDS 147

A recent trend in the Ceramic Tile industry is the use of plastic or other composite uncoupling membranes. The use of an uncoupling membrane (e.g. STRATA_MAT™ or STRATA_MAT XT) gives the installer ease of mind that their tile installation will be able to move independently from the substrate below. STRATA_MAT and STRATA_MAT XT have a grid side and a fabric side and can easily be cut using a simple box knife or scissors.

Prior to the installation of STRATA_MAT or STRATA_MAT XT, make sure the substrate meets deflection requirements for ceramic tile and stone. For general information regarding deflection, please refer to [TDS 123](#) “Deflection”, and for deflection requirements of wood substrates please refer to [TDS 152](#) “Bonding Ceramic Tile, Stone or Brick Over Wood Floors”.

For installations of STRATAMAT or STRATA_MAT XT use the following material options for setting the STRATA_MAT and for setting tiles on top of the uncoupling membrane.

To adhere the uncoupling membrane to the properly prepared substrate, LATICRETE recommends;

254 Platinum ([DS 677.0](#)), 254 Platinum Plus([DS 65329](#)), MULTIMAX™ LITE ([DS 328.0](#)), 254 Platinum Rapid ([DS 729.0](#)), 253 Gold ([DS 296.0](#)), or 253R Gold Rapid ([DS 296.3](#)).

To bond all ceramic tile or stone, including porcelain tile, to the uncoupling membrane, LATICRETE recommends;

254 Platinum ([DS 677.0](#)), 254 Platinum Plus([DS 65329](#)), MULTIMAX™ LITE ([DS 328.0](#)), 254 Platinum Rapid ([DS 729.0](#)), 253 Gold ([DS 296.0](#)), or 253R Gold Rapid ([DS 296.3](#)).

LATICRETE does not recommend using ANSI A118.1 dry set mortars mixed only with water for bonding porcelain tile in any application and the unique configuration of STRATA_MAT and STRATA_MAT XT allow for the use of polymer fortified thin-sets to install porcelain tile. As noted in the TCNA Handbook for Ceramic, Glass and Stone Tile Installation, “...latex/polymer modified portland cement mortar is required for the installation of porcelain tile.”¹ Please note that an ANSI A118.1 compliant dry-set mortar can be used in conjunction with clay bodied ceramic tile.

Please refer to STRATA_MAT ([DS 026.0](#)) or STRATA_MAT XT ([DS 028.0](#)) for warranty information and specific installation guidelines.

The use of other manufacturer’s thin-sets, grouts, membranes, or other products will affect the warranty, as will the use of a competitor’s uncoupling membrane used in conjunction with LATICRETE® installation materials. LATICRETE can only provide a one-year product only warranty for the LATICRETE materials used with competitive products. Warranty information can be found online at <https://laticrete.com>.

¹ [TCNA Handbook for Ceramic Tile Installation \(2019\)](#). Tile Council of North America, Inc. Anderson, SC, 2019, pg. 15.

