



# NXT<sup>®</sup> Wear Surface Variation

## TDS 185N

NXT<sup>®</sup> products are manufactured with the highest regard for quality, functionality and performance. The goal of NXT LEVEL DL is to provide a wear surface product which fulfills the required demands of each project and create a beautiful, long lasting and consistent finished floor. However, due to jobsite conditions and environmental factors, variability in the finished floor may occur.

The performance of NXT LEVEL DL, when used as a wear surface, relies upon measurable physical performance characteristics such as compressive strength, abrasion resistance and water damage stability. The performance also depends upon proper surface preparation, priming and mixing of the NXT products to ensure the best results. It should be noted that there is no guarantee that the finished surface will not show variation in color and consistency due to jobsite conditions and mixing/installation techniques.

Some of these aesthetic variations can include (but are not limited to);

**Swirling** – random patterns which are almost always evident and are caused by varying jobsite conditions and installation/finishing techniques.

**Surface Texture** – surface texture can appear as very smooth to slight texture and is primarily due to environmental conditions such as temperature, humidity and air movement, or by the substrate condition and type.

**Spotting** – spots may be noticeable in the surface which may be impossible to avoid or predict due to the nature of cement and variations in jobsite conditions.

**Cracking** – may appear in the surface of the NXT wear surface toppings. The potential for cracking is quite common with all cement based products. Therefore, cracks are expected with decorative cement topping projects and are not considered a manufacturing defect. LATICRETE cannot predict if, or to what extent, cracking will occur.

**Ghosting/Shadowing** – When used as a polished wear surface over STRATA\_MAT or STRATA\_HEAT Mat it is important to install NXT LEVEL DL thick enough so that the mat hydration cups do not show or shadow through the surface during the grinding and polishing process. The grinding/polishing can remove 1/4" (6mm) or more of the surface and may expose the substrate.

Note that the above mentioned aesthetic variations are not manufacturing defects and may not be caused by improper installation. The finished appearance of the wear surface becomes part of the inherent nature of the floor for each project and provides unique variation from job to job. Variation in the wear surface is considered as outside of the control of LATICRETE and is not a warrantable condition. To avoid any variation in the wear surface, the use of a tinted sealer or coating is recommended to create a more monolithic appearance.

When used as a wear surface, NXT LEVEL DL may receive a topical sealer after sufficient cure time of the wear surface. The use of a high quality sealer (e.g. LATICRETE STONETECH<sup>®</sup> High Gloss Finishing Sealer) helps to protect the surface from potential staining, resists dust and grime and makes any routine maintenance and cleaning easier to perform. Refer to the manufacturer of the sealer for specific information regarding the mixing, installation, maintenance, and re-application of their product and for performance characteristics.

Protect the fresh installation of NXT wear surfaces to prevent damage caused by premature exposure to traffic, dirt, dust, and other factors which may affect the final appearance of the surface. Some cleaning products/processes may alter the surface. Test cleaning product and process in a small area prior to applying to the entire floor. Refer to TDS 184N Maintenance of NXT Cementitious Decorative Toppings for more detailed information.

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at [www.laticrete.com](http://www.laticrete.com)  
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