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LIGHTWEIGHT SCREEDS WITH VARIABLE CONSISTENCY: A NEW GENERATION FOR MORE EFFICIENT CONSTRUCTION SITES

In the floor system, the screed is decisive for performance and durability. **La Chape XXs Dual Tech** is an evolution of the lightweight fiber-reinforced screed: with variable consistency, it combines lightness, strength and speed of application in a single product that adapts to site requirements.

Emanuele Stabellini – Marketing Manager, Edilteco S.p.A.

In the floor system, the screed is one of the most critical elements for the success of the work, both in new construction and, above all, in refurbishment. Today's design requirements call for materials that combine lightness, mechanical performance, speed of application and quality of finish.

This is the context for the evolution of a product already well known in the sector: **La Chape XXs® Dual Tech**, the new version of **Edilteco's lightweight fiber-reinforced screed**, with an updated formulation that introduces a key element for today's construction site: managing consistency with a single product.

From choosing the technology to managing consistency on site

In design and site practice, **choosing a screed** has always involved a preliminary decision between traditional and flowing solutions. **Traditional solutions** ensure control and precision in the work but take longer; **flowing solutions** favor speed and flatness, but can be less adaptable in some operating conditions.

With the introduction of Dual Tech technology, this distinction is overcome. **La Chape XXs Dual Tech** makes it possible to **obtain both application methods from the same product**, simply by adjusting the water content during mixing.

In this way, consistency becomes a variable that can be managed directly on site, adapting to the actual requirements of the substrate and the job.

Technical characteristics of the La Chape XXs Dual Tech fiber-reinforced screed

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La Chape XXs Dual Tech: one formula, two consistencies

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In terms of performance, the product belongs to the **family of new-generation lightweight screeds**, characterized by a **composition** based on **cementitious binder, lightweight aggregates and fibers**, with the addition of EPS (expanded polystyrene) beads of controlled grading coated with the specific E.I.A. additive.

This structure gives a **density of around 75 lb/ft^3** (1,200 kg/m^3) and a **weight reduction of up to 50%** compared with a traditional screed, a particularly important aspect when working on existing floor slabs or sensitive structures.

The **mechanical performance** is consistent with use in the floor system: **compressive strength** reaches values of **1,740 psi (12 N/mm^2, 12,000 kPa)** or more in the traditional version and **1,450 psi (10 N/mm^2, 10,000 kPa)** or more in the flowing version, with good flexural strength.

Reaction to fire is classified **A2fl-s1** (class for floorings): the material is therefore also suitable in contexts with specific requirements.

Discover La Chape XXs Dual Tech and download the technical data sheet

Workability, finish and site times
One of the most important aspects is workability. Depending on the consistency chosen, the new formulation produces a material that **can be leveled with a straightedge or left to self-level**, maintaining good cohesion and ease of handling in both cases.

This flexibility is directly reflected in the quality of the finish, which is uniform and even, as well as in the execution times. Thanks to its fast setting and drying, under standard conditions **ceramic tiles can be laid directly after just 24 hours** without the need for a skim coat, significantly reducing overall site times.

Installation of La Chape XXs Dual Tech with flowing consistency

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Fields of application
The combination of lightness, performance and adaptability makes **La Chape XXs Dual Tech** a suitable solution for both **new construction and refurbishment**. The product is used in a variety of situations, including correcting levels, creating falls, thermal insulating subfloors and bonded or unbonded screeds, showing a good ability to integrate into the floor system as a whole.

A solution that affects site organization

Perhaps the most interesting aspect of this evolution concerns not only the performance of the material, but its impact on site organization. Having a **single product that can adapt to different application methods** simplifies materials management, reduces operational complexity and increases control over the final result.

At a time when construction sites require ever greater efficiency and adaptability, the ability to adjust the consistency of the screed without changing product is a concrete optimization.

Standards and good practice for screeds

For workmanlike design and installation of screeds in Italy, it is advisable to refer to the Italian standard **UNI 11944** and to the **Code of Good Practice of Conpaviper**, the Italian association of screed and flooring contractors; the classification and mechanical performance of the material are defined by the European standard **EN 13813**.

Towards greater integration between design and execution

The evolution of lightweight screeds reflects a broader change in the way the floor system is approached. The choice of material can no longer be separated from actual site conditions and application methods.

Solutions such as **La Chape XXs Dual Tech** introduce a level of flexibility that **brings design and execution closer together, reducing critical issues and improving the overall reliability of the work**. From this perspective, the screed is no longer just a functional layer, but becomes a technical tool capable of adapting to the needs of the project.

Technical FAQ – La Chape XXs Dual Tech, very thin lightweight fiber-reinforced pre-mixed screed

What is the minimum application thickness of La Chape XXs Dual Tech? The screed can be applied from a minimum thickness of 3/8 in (1 cm) bonded to the substrate (3/4 in [2 cm] on a separation layer) up to a maximum of 6 in (15 cm), and is therefore suitable for work where the available height is limited.

In which situations is this screed particularly suitable? It is particularly suitable for refurbishment work or projects where the thickness of the subfloor must be kept to a minimum without compromising performance.

What is La Chape XXs Dual Tech made of? It consists of fine-grained expanded polystyrene beads (Ø ? 0.12 in [3 mm]) with E.I.A. additive, combined with cementitious binders, aggregates and fibers. This combination ensures workability even on uneven substrates, effective leveling and a strong base for the direct laying of floor coverings.

Can the screed be applied on uneven substrates? Yes. Its formulation ensures good workability even on uneven substrates, allowing effective leveling and a base suitable for laying.

Is an additional layer needed before laying the floor covering? No. The screed provides a solid, strong base that allows various types of floor covering to be laid directly, without the need for additional layers.