

# The dry mortar concept



The **Pronto Dry Mortar** concept entails the delivery of **dry mortar** products in 34 ton portable **silos** to construction sites in Gauteng. Mixing of the dry materials takes place at a central facility where sands, binder and additives are mixed and blended to the required specification. Water and final mixing thereof takes place on site by the contractor.

## PRODUCT RANGE

### Dual purpose dry mortar

Can be used as a **brick** mortar or **plaster** for all but the most demanding plaster applications. Its use as a plaster is intended for factory and townhouse construction where brush plaster, tyrolene or wood float finish is required. Supplied as a dual purpose it conforms to the specification of a Class II mortar. Our intention is to minimize the amount of material on site and consequently wastage, hence a dual purpose product. Townhouse construction can also present access problems which a dual purpose mortar overcomes to an extent.

### Super flat

A superior speciality plaster for use in the most demanding applications. It is intended for use by specialist plastering contractors in the construction of hotels, shopping centres, office blocks and the like where steel float finishes are specified.

### Scratch plaster/mortar

A Class II multipurpose render that intends to simplify the wet trade requirements of the site. All mortars are suitable for both scratch plasters as well as face brick applications and are highly consistent in colour.

### Screeds/topping

Screeds are designed to achieve a strength of 20 MPa.

### Storage

Customers are only required to construct a 3m × 3m × 150mm slab where they want the silo placed and where it can be accessed by the

delivery vehicle. The placing area must be level and in an uncongested area in order that the offloading equipment can access the top of the silo. The vehicle typically needs a minimum of 12m from discharge point to the top of the silo.

Silos capacities are 34 tons and as such yield some 20m<sup>3</sup> of wet material.

### Supply and use

Delivery vehicles supply 17 tons of material per delivery which typically takes 30 minutes to offload.

As the product is used and the silo empties itself an advance warning indicator tells the user to order more product before the silo runs empty, in that way continuity of supply is maintained. The indicator will start to drop when approximately 20 tons of material remains in the silo. A 24 hour notice period is required in order to arrange a delivery. The silo is able to accommodate two deliveries from completely empty to full and the contractor needs to bear this in mind when the site is nearing completion.

The products are essentially premixed with the philosophy being “**just add water**”. An added advantage is that the mortar doesn’t have to be mixed as such, as it is already premixed; the water needs to be only homogenously agitated until consistency is achieved.

### Site suitability

**Pronto Dry Mortar** is cost effective where the site uses one load of material per week per silo as an absolute minimum. A week’s grace period at site start up and completion is allowed, after which demurrage

is charged. The contract duration necessitating silos should be over a minimum four week period.

An initial **R1000 refundable deposit** is charged on the **first delivery** and is returned to the client on the return of the silo with all components intact. **Pronto Dry Mortar** is generally *not* suitable to be used where **single house construction** is taking place.

## Advantages

- Cheaper.
- A consistent superior final product of known performance, produced under controlled conditions to meet spec (SABS 0145:1987 amended 1994).
- Vastly reduced wastage (up to 30%).
- Virtually immune to theft and pilferage.
- Higher productivity, less mixing, dual purpose.
- Mix as required, as little or as much as you want.
- No need to order and control cement.

## Further information

Silo discharged points are placed at a convenient height in order that a builder’s wheel barrow can be placed under the discharge butterfly valve and taken to a convenient mixing location. It is not recommended that mortar be mixed immediately adjacent to the silo as the water may undermine the foundations.