SRO912 – TILING OVER WALL TILES
in Internal Dry Area Areas

SCOPE

Tiling over existing wall tiles is an accepted method of renovating a tiled area quickly and economically.

PREPARATION

The success of the installation relies entirely upon the adhesion of the existing tiles as this adhesive will have the support the additional weight of the new tile finishes. These tiles must be well fixed to the substrate with any loose and/or damaged/cracked tiles removed before proceeding. Voids left in concrete/masonry by the removal of tiles may be filled with an ARDEX Patching mortar such as **ARDEX A 45** Rapid Set mortar. Similarly open grout joints must be filled prior to further preparation procedures.

Ensure the existing tiles are clean and dry. Three acceptable preparation treatments are;

System 1

- Wash with a mild detergent (e.g. Sugar soap solution) and rinse thoroughly with water, let dry. This is minimal preparation for BEST adhesives in the table below.

System 2

- Mechanically grind/sand the surface to achieve a fine textured surface free of all contaminants. Vacuum to remove any dust prior to adhesive fixing the tiles.

System 3

- Mechanically remove at least 80% of the glazed surface prior to adhesive fixing the tiles. Vacuum to remove dust prior to priming.

PRIMING

For dry area walls, a suitable prime coat of **ARDEX P 9** or **ARDEX P 82** is acceptable. Let dry prior to adhesive fixing the tiles.

TILING

The adhesive fixing of new tiles requires the adhesive layer to be applied in sufficient thickness and coverage to achieve maximum contact between the tile and the substrate. Typically a 6 x 6 x 6mm notched trowel can achieve this. For commercial walls, AS3958 recommends at least 80% contact with at least 65% contact for residential walls. This can be achieved by spreading the mixed adhesive using a suitable notched trowel so the adhesive lines are parallel. Additional adhesive is to be buttered over the back of tiles larger than 400 x 400mm. Each tile is then pressed firmly into the adhesive with a back & forth sliding action perpendicular to the rib direction to

collapse and merge the adhesive lines to achieve maximum contact between the tile and adhesive.

ARDEX suitable adhesives are below;

	Good	Better	Best
Porous Bodied Tiles Terracotta/ Glazed Ceramic	X18 ; X52	X10+E90	X18+90 ; X77+E90
Glazed Mosaic	X18 ; X52	X10+E90	X18+90 ; X77+E90
Dense Bodied Tiles Vitrified & porcelain & Glass	X18 ; X52	X10+E90	X18+90 ; X77+E90
Natural Stone tiles (excluding Moisture Sensitive Stone)	X18 ; X52	X10+E90	X18+90 ; X77+E90
Natural Stone Tiles Moisture Sensitive Stone tiles	Refer to ARDEX Technical Bulletin TB010		

GROUTING

Once the adhesive has set, (in most cases this is overnight but refer to the adhesive datasheet) the tiles may be grouted with one of the following ARDEX grouts:

- **ARDEX FG 8** sanded grout for joints from 1 to 8mm and is a general purpose grout available in a large range of colours.
- **ARDEX FS-DD** un-sanded grout for joints 1 to 4mm. This is recommended for polished tiles with rectified edges as the grout has a smooth finish and is available in a range of colours.
- **ARDEX WJ 50** sanded grout for joints 5 to 50mm
- **ARDEX WA** Epoxy 2 part grout available in black, grey or white for installations where high standards of hygiene and/or chemical resistance are required.
- **ARDEX EG-15** Epoxy 3 part grout for installations where high standards of hygiene and/or chemical resistance are required. It is available in 8 colours and is designed for grout widths 1.5mm to 15mm.

Note: *ARDEX cement based grouts may be mixed with* ***ARDEX Grout Booster*** *for increased performance such as resistance to water penetration, reduced potential for efflorescence, greater strength and flexibility.*

MOVEMENT JOINTS

Movement joints are to be included in the new tile finish in accordance with the recommendations of AS3958. These joints are installed (but not limited to) in the following locations:

- Over all existing movement joints in the substrate.
- At all internal corners/changes in direction in the plane of the substrate.
- Along all perimeters where the tiles butt against walls and/or built in furniture.
- Around all penetrations through the tile finish.

Movement joints should be at least 6mm wide and are filled with a flexible sealant such as the **ARDEX SE** or **ARDEX ST** silicone for natural stones. Compressible backer rods may be required in deeper joints to maintain the recommended sealant thickness at half the joint width.

Disclaimer:

The recommendation selected is based upon questions answered on the ARDEX Australia website. This recommendation is designed as a general application for your described situation and should not be considered site specific documentation for general distribution. Always consult the latest relevant ARDEX Technical Bulletins and information on the product packaging and/or product data sheets (available on the ARDEX Website). Australian and other relevant standards should be followed during installation. If you have any further questions or would like further clarification please contact the ARDEX Technical Services Hotline on 1800 224 070 (9am to 5pm Monday to Friday).