

RE: Fiber Reinforcement

To All,

As this topic seems to be a continual point of contention, we decided to create this position statement on the topic. Fiber reinforcement in slabs to be polished will cause 2 defined issues. First issue is the light diffusion, causing the light to refract at the surface instead of reflecting. This makes it impossible to produce a medium or high gloss floor. The second issue is the presence of texture at the surface caused by the fiber creates haze. Meters that read DOI (distinctness of image) will produce low numbers because of the surface texture. Ra meters (profilometers) also will read higher numbers than the actual surface scratch pattern due to the surface texture created by the fibers. Often specifications call out specific levels of gloss, haze and DOI to quantify the quality of the surface refinement. The fiber interferes with these measurements. Finally, the aesthetic design intent is compromised when using fiber in a concrete mixture designated for a polished concrete finish.

Respectfully,



**Clark Branum**

Training & Specification Manager