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RUBBAFLEX SAFER SURFACING FOR CHILDREN'S PLAY AREAS

(April 2006)

GENERAL INFORMATION / SPECIFICATION

Applications

Rubbaflex Safer Surfacing can be installed either under new play equipment or to bring old or dangerous installations up to date with current safety testing standards by using different rubber thicknesses to comply with the full range of Critical Fall Height values.

By using a range of combinations of full EPDM rubber granules both an attractive and educational finish can also be achieved at no cost to safety.

Authority

The Rubbaflex Safety Surfacing system had been fully tested in accordance with the standards set out to EN1177:1998 and a certificate is available upon request or to view online.

DESCRIPTION

Composition, Manufacture and Installation

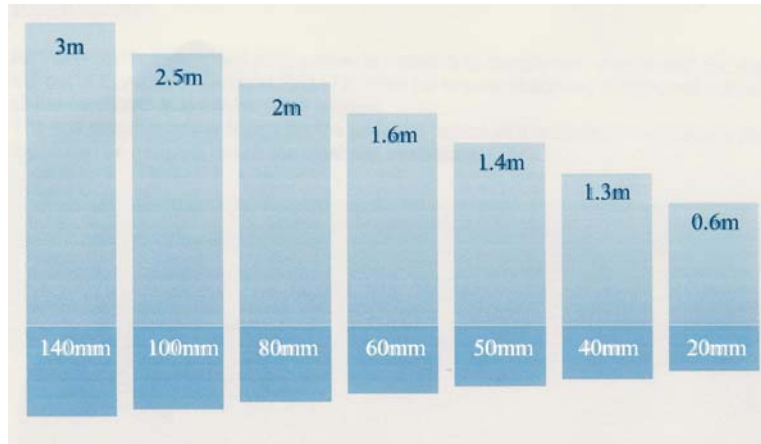
With children's play areas various depths of recycled rubber have to be used to provide the cushioning effect required of Critical Fall Height (CFH) standards. This variable thickness is normally built into the surrounding area. A major benefit of Rubbaflex Safer Surfacing wet pour rubber is that finishing around items of play equipment such as uprights and nets is infinitely easier to secure against vandalism than other more rigid types of surface.

Rubbaflex Safety Surfacing is bonded together using MDI resins, mixed on site with special equipment, and laid by our own skilled craftsmen to ensure maximum quality control. Although a black finish is probably the most common installation, many clients use a percentage colour fleck or full coloured EPDM inlays to achieve the slip and abrasive requirement.

The major means of construction is to excavate the topsoil area allowing for the base (either type one Limestone or porous concrete) and the required finished thickness of rubber according to the specification set out or the required CFH directed by the play equipment manufacturer, to be contained and finished at ground level. Above ground construction can be achieved on to harder surfaces, such as macadam or concrete, but care should be taken in ensuring that vertical drainage is not compromised.

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The base layer of larger granule rubber is designed to act as the spring or absorbent mattress with a smaller granule with a higher adhesive content as the protective wearing course finish on top.



Various depths of rubber can be installed from 15 mm to approximately 120 mm and different grades and colours can be incorporated in the finished surface to achieve a bright, educational and interesting finished surface.

With all construction techniques, the finished product is only as good as preparation work so the base must provide vertical drainage and a sound, adequately installed timber board or concrete path edging to provide maximum protection against vandals.

Dimensions and Suitability

The product can be installed from a minimum thickness of 15mm on suitable surfaces to approximately 120 mm. In areas of known abuse by vandals, special strengthening of the base edge detailing and finishing need to be considered. Contact our office for further information.

Appearance

The basic colour is black using a 1-4 mm finishing granule. A coloured fleck can be incorporated, normally in increments of 10%, to break up the monotony of a plain black finish, to blend into a particular environment, as an educational and teaching aid or simply for fun! The choice of popular colour is as follows: Light Green, Beige, Yellow, Orange, Mid Grey, Terracotta, Royal Blue, Gold, Dark Green, Brown and Sky Blue. Other specialist colours are available upon request.

PERFORMANCE

Rubbaflex Safer Surfacing wet pour rubber system is tested to comply with the requirements of European Standards EN1177:1998. This covers resistance to abrasive wear, slip resistance, ease of ignition, resistance to indentation, tensile properties and a scale of Critical Fall Height values.

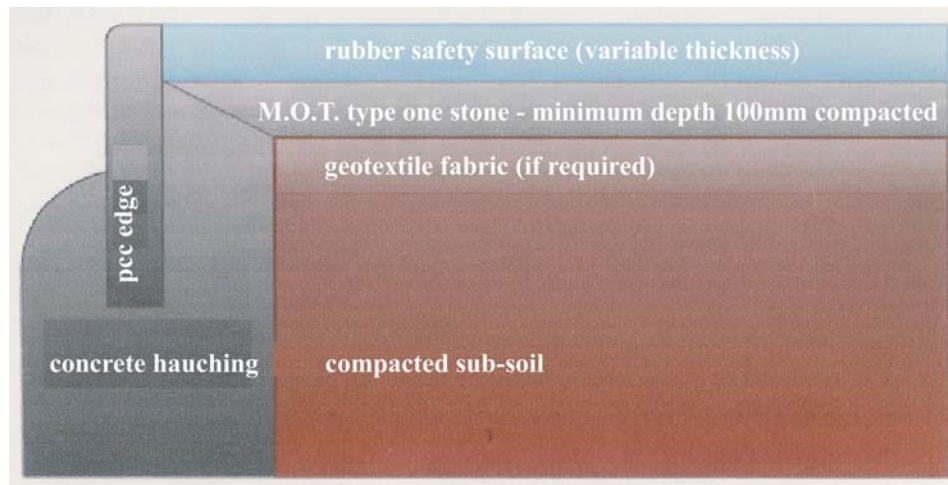
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SITE WORK

Installation

The line diagram below illustrates the principle means of installation for children's playgrounds; these can be adapted to suit the local site conditions.



MAINTENANCE

In general terms very little maintenance is required but, as with all good housekeeping, regular inspections are advised to ensure that the surface is clear of all debris. To rejuvenate the finished surface, especially where colour is concerned, Poolsafe Ltd can provide a rubber cleaning detergent which is available from the office. If areas become damaged through excessive wear or vandals these isolated areas can be cut out and reinstalled.

GUARANTEE

Rubbaflex Safer Surfacing is guaranteed for two years. The first year being for labour and raw materials and the second encompassing fair wear and tear and all subject to a proven, regular inspection and maintenance during that period.

SERVICES AND SUPPLY

All installation work is carried out by our own direct employees to ensure consistency and pride in installation.

REFERENCES

A selected list of installations is available upon request if required.