

PFL Acid Gel is a gel etching solution enabling increased control and safer preparation of sloping or difficult concrete surfaces, and vertical concrete panels and walls.

1. Description

PFL Acid Gel is a traditional etching solution contained in a gel. The gel follows the contour of the concrete, even on vertical surfaces, allowing for excellent control of the etching process. This enables sloping surfaces to be etched evenly, with no runoff or damage to surrounding areas. The gel also avoids over etching low spots and under etch high spots on uneven concrete that can occur with liquid etching products. PFL Acid Gel can be applied to vertical surfaces such as pre-cast panels and the rise of steps. The gel reduces splashing, making it safer to use and reducing damage to surrounding surfaces.

This product guide covers the surface preparation and application of PFL Acid Gel - if there is any question as to the suitability or application of this product please contact Peter Fell Ltd prior to use. Refer to the SDS for full Health and Safety information.

2. Precautions

- PFL Acid Gel is a CORROSIVE SOLUTION and should be used with extreme care - please ensure all safety guidelines are read prior to use and are strictly adhered to during application.
- PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner should be used in conjunction with PFL Acid Gel to control and neutralize its corrosive activity.
- All susceptible surfaces i.e. metal drains or joinery, should be protected from splashing during application.
- The concrete surface must be buffered with water prior to application of PFL Acid Gel.
- DO NOT dispose of PFL Acid Gel down drains or waterways.

3. Test Area

Prior to full application of PFL Acid Gel it is recommended that a small test area away from the main visual area is prepared (following instructions) to ensure that the product is correct for your application.

- If the concrete surface is still 'soft' (if concrete is not fully cured or incorrectly finished) PFL Acid Gel will have an increased corrosive effect.

If you are unsure about the appropriate dilution or application of PFL Acid Gel contact Peter Fell Ltd before proceeding with the entire area.

4. Preparation

The concrete must be clean and free of any contamination prior to application of PFL Acid Gel. Surfaces can be cleaned with **PFL Neutralizer and Cleaner** or **PFL Concrete Cleaner** – see Product Guides for application instructions.

Ensure all susceptible surfaces i.e. metal drains, other cementitious products, joinery etc, are protected from any contact with PFL Surface Prep Lite.

- PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner can be used to wipe down other surfaces to protect from splashes.

5. Equipment

- Hose (or source of fresh clean water).
- Broom (soft bristle) or brush.
- Paint tray
- Polythene sheet (to place user paint tray when decanting gel)
- PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner (prepared diluted solution)
- Wet and Dry Vacuum cleaner (interior floors only).
- Safety Equipment – see section 8. Personal Protective Equipment.

6. Application

- Pour acid gel into a paint tray (or similar size container).
 - Ensure the paint tray/container is placed on a tray or sheet of polythene to prevent any spillage onto the concrete surface while working.
 - Care must also be taken when taking broom/brush from bucket to avoid drips or spills.
- Wet down area with clean water, making sure water is ALWAYS visible on the surface where the PFL Acid Gel is applied.
 - Do not use excess water and avoid pooling as this will reduce the action of the PFL Acid Gel.
- Apply PFL Acid Gel to small areas at a time (initially 2 - 4 m²) and start away from prominent areas to get comfortable with procedure.
- Using a soft bristle broom or brush, spread PFL Acid Gel evenly on the concrete surface.
 - Start at one end of the area and work to the other end to avoid walking in the acid gel.
 - Start in the middle of broom/brush stroke and work evenly over the surface - avoid pooling!

Uneven distribution or pooling can lead to uneven etching!

- Once the area has been evenly coated with the gel, treat area with diluted solution of PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner - leave on surface for a few minutes (solution turns 'milky' in patches).
 - On internal floors, use a wet and dry vacuum cleaner to remove the neutralized residue.
 - On external surfaces, broom (and hose) to clean the neutralised residue from the surface.
- The floor can be treated again using diluted PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner to ensure the floor is properly cleaned prior to sealing.
- The surface should then be rinsed with excess clean water until all PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner is removed from the surface - no bubbles or foaming with hosing and no residual material present when the surface dries.
 - Clean internal floors with clean water, vacuum surface, and repeat if necessary to insure all residual material is removed prior to commencement of sealing.

Coverage:

- Approximately 2 – 4 m²/L. Coverage will vary depending on the concrete texture and finish.

Clean-up:

- All equipment should be neutralized and cleaned with appropriately diluted solution of PFL Neutralizer & Cleaner.
 - Ensure runoff does not go down waterways, or onto area's susceptible to pH changes i.e gardens.

7. Storage and Handling

Pack Sizes: 1, 2, 5, 10, and 20 L.

Handling: Wear suitable protective clothing (see section 8. Personal Protective Equipment).

Storage: Store in cool, dry, well ventilated place in original container. Store out of reach of children. Protect against static discharge. Store away from direct sunlight, oxidizing agents (e.g. nitrates, peroxides, hypochlorites), acids, anionic detergents (e.g. soap), heat sources and foodstuffs. Ensure container is sealed when not in use and checked regularly for leaks or spills. PFL Acid Gel can be stored for up to 12 months.

8. Personal Protective Equipment

Eyes: Avoid contact with eyes. Use safety glasses and/or chemical splash goggles.

Skin: Suitable protective workwear e.g. cotton overalls buttoned at the neck and wrist is recommended. Chemical resistance apron is also recommended where large quantities are handled.

Protective gloves are recommended. PVA or Viton/Butyl gloves are recommended. Replace frequently. Gloves should be checked for tears or holes before use. Open cuts abraded, or irritated skin should not be exposed to this material.

Rubber safety boots.

Respiratory: A respirator is recommended when airborne concentrations approach the Workplace Exposure Standard (WES) – see SDS for more information. Use a respirator with an acid gas cartridge and a full-face mask. Ensure that the cartridges are correct for the potential air contamination and are in good working order. Refer to SDS for full safety information.

Refer to the SDS for full Health and Safety information.

9. First Aid

Swallowed: DO NOT induce vomiting. Give water or milk to drink. Obtain medical attention immediately. For emergency information contact the *National Poisons Centre (0800 764 766)*.

Eyes: Immediately flood with copious quantities of water, holding eye open if necessary, for at least 15 minutes. Seek urgent medical attention.

Skin: Remove contaminated clothing and shoes and wash skin thoroughly with soapy water. If irritation occurs or persists, seek medical attention. Launder clothing and clean shoes before re-use.

Inhalation: Remove patient from exposure, keep warm and at rest. If there is respiratory distress, give oxygen and seek immediate medical attention.

10. Physical Properties and Identification

Appearance: Blue or green liquid

pH: <1

UN Number: 3265

HSNO Approval: HSR002658

Hazchem code: 2X

DG Class: 8

Packing Group: III

Product Warranty

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