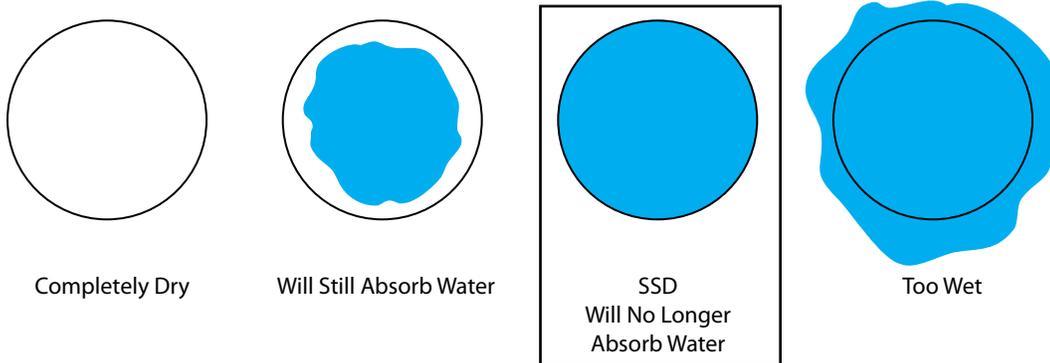


## WHAT IS SSD?

The term SSD (Saturated Surface Dry) is frequently used when describing the surface or substrate condition prior to the application of cementitious repair products and grouts. It is also used to describe the moisture content of aggregates when applications require the repair mortar or grouts to be extended by adding aggregate.

### WHAT DOES SSD MEAN?

SSD or Saturated Surface Dry is the condition of a substrate or aggregate when it has reached its maximum absorption of water without excess or free water.



In order to ensure that the correct amount of water is added to the repair product or grout, it is extremely important to make sure all conditions are SSD. This includes the substrate to which it will be placed and any aggregate used if its to be extended.

**EXAMPLES:** I. Adding aggregate to a grout mix; If the water absorption of the aggregate is 2% but the aggregate is very wet at 5% moisture content then the water added would have to be decreased accordingly. *ie.  $5\% - 2\% = 3\%$  excess water.* A 3% variance in water on cementitious grout and repair materials will dramatically change the consistency, strength, durability and volume stability of the product..

II. Dampening the substrate Properly dampening or conditioning the substrate to a SSD condition with water prior to apply repair mortar is essential so that the surface neither adds water nor takes away moisture from the repair mortar. This “neutral” bond line interface is essential in achieving proper long term adhesion.

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