BUILDING TRUST

PRODUCT DATA SHEET

Sika® FerroGard®-903+

Independently Verified, Active Corrosion Inhibiting Impregnation Liquid

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

Sika® FerroGard®-903+ is a surface applied mixed corrosion inhibitor, independently verified, designed for use as an impregnation of steel reinforced uncoated concrete, and is an improved formulation of the original Sika® FerroGard®-903.
Sika® FerroGard®-903+ is based on organic compounds. Sika® FerroGard®-903+ penetrates the concrete and forms a protective monomolecular layer on the surface of the reinforcing steel.
Protection with Sika® FerroGard®-903+ delays both the start of corrosion and reduces the corrosion rate.
Corrosion protection with Sika® FerroGard®-903+ increases the service and maintenance life cycles by up to 20 years when used as a part of a complete Sika® Concrete Repair and Protection System.

USES

- As an active corrosion inhibitor for uncoated reinforced concrete.
- For the corrosion protection of steel reinforced concrete structures above and below the ground.
- As a corrosion control treatment for undamaged reinforced concrete where reinforcing steel is corroding, or is at risk from corrosion, due to the effects of carbonated or chloride contaminated concrete.
- Sika® FerroGard®-903+ is especially suitable for extending the service life of aesthetically valuable fair-faced concrete surfaces such as historic structures.
- As part of Sika's Total Corrosion Management System.
- To extend design lives of concrete elements - particularly useful for precast concrete.

CHARACTERISTICS / ADVANTAGES

- Complies to principle 11 of EN 1504-9 method 11.3 (applying inhibitor to the concrete).
- Does not change the appearance of the concrete structure.
- Does not alter the water vapour diffusion properties of concrete.
- Long-term protection and durability.
- Can be applied to the surface of existing repairs and to surrounding areas to prevent the development of incipient anodes.
- Protects both cathodic (principle 9), and anodic (principle 11) zones of reinforcing steel.
- Can be applied where other repair / prevention options are not viable.
- Economic extension of the service life of reinforced concrete structures.
- Easy, economical application, renewable.
- Can be used as part of a simple, yet effective, Concrete Repair and Protection System.
- Penetration depth can be tested on site using the Sika® 'Qualitative Analysis Test' - refer to your Sika® Technical Service Department for details.
- Product efficacy independently tested and verified.

APPROVALS / STANDARDS

- BRE: The use of surface applied FerroGard 903+ corrosion inhibitor to delay the onset of chloride induced corrosion in hardened concrete, BRE Client Report No. 224-346, 2005.
- Mott MacDonald: Evaluation of Sika FerroGard 901 and 903+ Corrosion Inhibitors, Ref. 26’063/001 Rev A, April 1996.
- SAMARIS (Sustainable and Advanced Materials for Road Infrastructure): Final Report, Deliverables D17a, D17b, D21 & D25a, Copenhagen, 2006.
- Mulheron, M., Nwaubani, S.O.: Corrosion Inhibitors for High Performance Reinforced Concrete Structures, University of Surrey, 1999.
- C-Probe Systems Ltd.: Performance of Corrosion Inhibitors in Practice, 2000.

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Chemical Base	Aqueous solution of amino alcohols and salts of amino alcohols.
Packaging	20 kg pail 1000 kg IBC
Appearance / Colour	Transparent liquid.
Shelf Life	24 months from date of production if stored properly in undamaged and unopened, original sealed packaging.
Storage Conditions	Store in a cool environment. In case of frost (i.e. ≤ -5°C), reversible crystallisation may occur. If this happens, let the product warm up at room temperature (+15 to +25 °C), then stir well to redissolve / redisperse the crystals.
Density	~1.04 kg/L (at +20°C)
pH-Value	~10
Viscosity	~24 mPa·s

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Penetration Depth	Site surveys and experimental tests have shown that Sika® FerroGard®-903+ can penetrate through concrete at a rate of a few millimetres per day and to a depth of approximately 25 to 40 mm in 1 month. This penetration rate can be faster or slower dependent on the porosity of the concrete. Sika® FerroGard®-903+ penetrates through both liquid and vapour phase diffusion mechanisms. **NOTE:** If, after application of Sika® FerroGard®-903+, the concrete surface is coated with protective coatings (cement based, acrylic or impregnation) or hydrophobic impregnation, the rate of diffusion of the inhibitor is reduced but not stopped as the mechanism of diffusion continues in the vapour phase. As concrete quality and permeability differ, it is recommended to perform some preliminary depth profile testing by the Sika® 'Qualitative Analysis' to assess the specific penetration rate.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Consumption	Generally ~0.500 kg/m² (~480ml/m²). For very dense concrete with low permeability, the rate of application of Sika® FerroGard®-903+ can be reduced, but must not be lower than ~0.300 kg/m² (~290ml/m²). To assess project requirements, consumption and depth of penetration shall be checked on site using the Sika® 'Qualitative Analysis' Test.
Ambient Air Temperature	+5°C minimum / +40°C maximum
Substrate Temperature	+5°C minimum / +40°C maximum

Waiting Time / Overcoating	**Waiting time between coats:** This is dependent on the porosity of the concrete and the weather conditions, but is normally 1 to 6 hours. Allow the surface to dry out between coats to a matt damp appearance. **Overcoating:** If the application is carried out as described above, no further treatment is required before overcoating with Sikagard® hydrophobic impregnations, Sikagard® breathable coatings, or Sikafloor® products (refer to appropriate Product Data Sheet for application details). If non-Sika® coatings are to be applied, please contact the manufacturers' technical department for confirmation of compatibility with Sika® FerroGard®-903+, or undertake compatibility and adhesion site trials. When Sika® FerroGard®-903+ is used within a patch repair or before a cementitious overlay. Standard preparation (pre-wetting) shall be applied. When using a smoothing coat / pore filler over surfaces treated with Sika® FerroGard®-903+, products such as Sikagard®-720 EpoCem® or Sika® MonoTop®-3020, etc., can be used. Cementitious levelling mortars shall only be used if there is a well prepared open textured surface, that is completely cleaned of residue to achieve the required adhesion value. If other Sika® products are to be used, site trials are recommended to confirm preparation and suitability. If non-Sika® products are to be used, please contact the manufacturers' technical department for confirmation of compatibility with Sika® FerroGard®-903+ or undertake compatibility and adhesion site trials.

SYSTEM INFORMATION

System Structure	Sika® FerroGard®-903+ is part of the Sika® Concrete Repair and Protection Systems:
Repair System:	Sika® MonoTop® Repair Mortars
Reinforcement Corrosion Control:	Sika® FerroGard®-903+
Concrete Protection:	Sikagard® Coatings and / or Sikagard® Hydrophobic Impregnations

VALUE BASE

All technical data stated in this Product Data Sheet are based on laboratory tests. Actual measured data may vary due to circumstances beyond our control.

USES

- Visible concrete defects (spalling, cracks, etc.) must be repaired using conventional repair methods (i.e. removal of delaminating or loose concrete, treatment of reinforcement, reprofiling, etc.)
- Alternatively to the method described above, Sika® FerroGard®-903+ can be applied (but not to overlays) after repair works have been carried out (after hardening of the cementitious repair material) – however, freshly repaired areas may not require treatment with the inhibitor. If this is nevertheless completed, lower diffusion is then expected at the zones repaired.
- Typical maximum chloride content at rebar level is 1% by weight of cement of free chloride ions (corresponding to 1.7% of sodium chloride). Above this limit, according to site conditions and level of corrosion activities, increased consumption of Sika® FerroGard®-903+ can be considered. Trials and corrosion rate monitoring to confirm consumption and effectiveness shall be carried out.
- To provide efficient protection of free chloride ion levels between 0.5 and 1.0% concentration, Sika® FerroGard®-903+ at rebar level shall be a minimum 100ppm when measured by chromatography ionic method – detailed method available upon request.

LIMITATIONS

- Do not apply when rain or frost is expected.
- The following construction materials have to be protected from splashes of Sika® FerroGard®-903+ during application:
  - Aluminium
  - Copper
  - Galvanised Steel
  - Marble and other similar Natural Stones
- Do not apply in tidal zones or to substrates saturated with water.
- Avoid application in direct sun and / or strong wind and / or rain.
- Do not apply to concrete in direct contact with drinking water.
- Depending on substrate conditions, the application of Sika® FerroGard®-903+ may lead to a slight darkening of the surface. Preliminary testing should always be completed to assess suitability / acceptabil-

ity.
- All surface treatments are to be carried out using cold potable water.

ECOLOGY, HEALTH AND SAFETY

User must read the most recent corresponding Safety Data Sheets (SDS) before using any products. The SDS provides information and advice on the safe handling, storage and disposal of chemical products and contains physical, ecological, toxicological and other safety-related data.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

SUBSTRATE QUALITY

The concrete shall be free from dust, loose material, surface contamination, existing renders, laitance, coatings, oil and other materials which reduce or prevent penetration.
If the substrate is to be overcoated, the surface profile shall be sufficient to provide the required adhesion.

SUBSTRATE PREPARATION

Delaminated, weak, damaged and deteriorated concrete shall be repaired using Sika® MonoTop® mortars.
For fair-faced concrete, or concrete to be further overcoated by coatings or hydrophobic impregnation, waterblast the concrete surface with pressure (up to 18 MPa / 180 bars).
For concrete surfaces to be further overcoated by cementitious material, roughen the surface using suitable abrasive blast cleaning techniques or high pressure waterblasting (up to 60 MPa / 600 bars).
For optimum penetration, the substrate shall be allowed to dry out prior to the application of Sika® FerroGard®-903+.

MIXING

Sika® FerroGard®-903+ is supplied ready for use and must not be diluted. Do not shake the material prior to use.

APPLICATION

Sika® FerroGard®-903+ shall be applied to saturation by brush, roller, low pressure or airless spray equipment.

Number of Coats:
This is dependent on the porosity and moisture content of the substrate, and the weather conditions.
Vertical Surfaces:
Normally, 2 to 3 coats are necessary to achieve the required consumption. In case of dense concrete, additional coats may be required.
Horizontal Surfaces:
Saturate surface with 1 to 2 coats, taking care to avoid ponding.
Waiting Time Between Coats:
This is dependent on the porosity of the concrete and the weather conditions, but is normally 1 to 6 hours. Allow the surface to dry out between coats to a matt damp appearance.
After the application of the last coat, as soon as the surface becomes matt, clean the surface using low pressure water (water hose).
The day after application, the treated surfaces shall be cleaned by pressure washing (~10 MPa / 100 bars).

CURING TREATMENT

Sika® FerroGard®-903+ does not require any special curing but must be protected from rain for at least 4 hours.

CLEANING OF TOOLS

Use water to clean application equipment.

LOCAL RESTRICTIONS

Please note that as a result of specific local regulations the performance of this product may vary from country to country. Please consult the local Product Data Sheet for the exact description of the application fields.

LEGAL NOTES

The information, and, in particular, the recommendations relating to the application and end-use of Sika products, are given in good faith based on Sika's current knowledge and experience of the products when properly stored, handled and applied under normal conditions in accordance with Sika's recommendations. In practice, the differences in materials, substrates and actual site conditions are such that no warranty in respect of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, nor any liability arising out of any legal relationship whatsoever, can be inferred either from this information, or from any written recommendations, or from any other advice offered. The user of the product must test the product's suitability for the intended application and purpose. Sika reserves the right to change the properties of its products. The proprietary rights of third parties must be observed. All orders are accepted subject to our current terms of sale and delivery. Users must always refer to the most recent issue of the local Product Data Sheet for the product concerned, copies of which will be supplied on request.

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