Planning for Concrete Curing

Most specifications give us an <u>option</u> to chemically cure OR Wet/Moist cure the concrete.

<mark>**Generally, it is to the project's benefit to <u>Wet/Moist cure</u> the concrete for many reasons…**</mark>
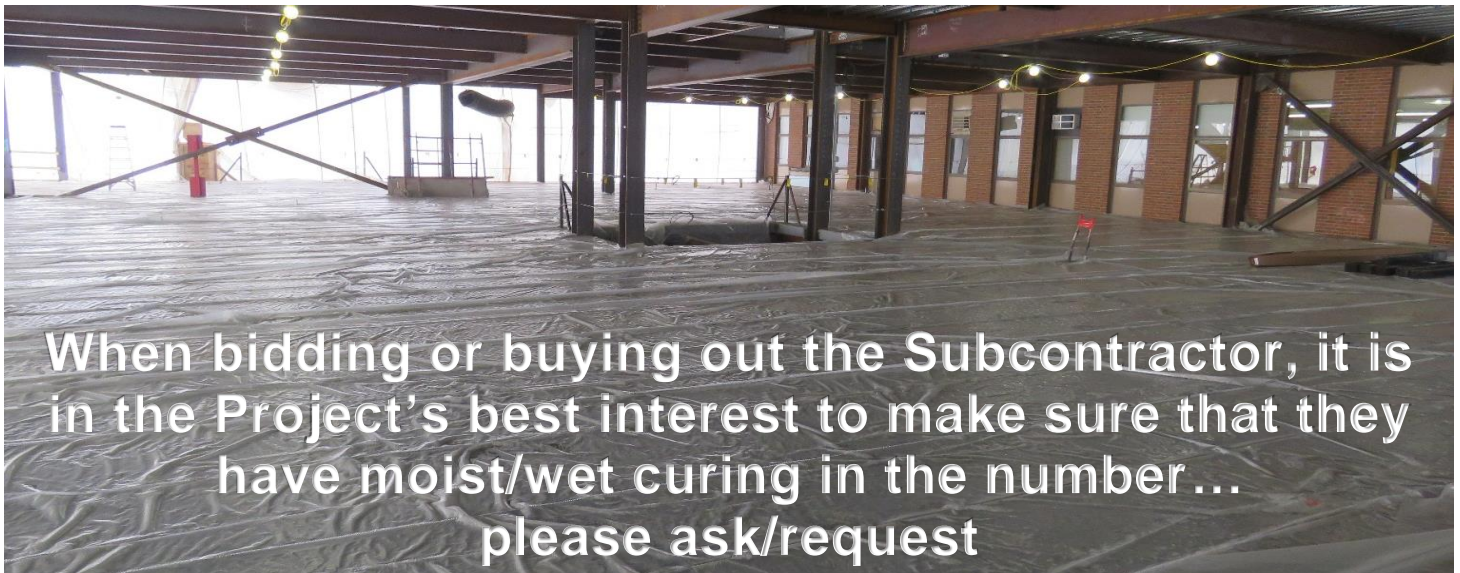
Why Is A Curing Compound or Dissipating Compound is Bad For Flooring?

- Curing compounds leave a film on concrete surface that interfere with the adhesion of material.
- **Curing compounds are dependent on the thickness of the application…Also, these compounds may remain on the surface <u>much longer than necessary for curing</u>, thus preventing internal moisture from getting out of the slab, creating moisture problems.**
- Almost all flooring leveling & flooring Mfr's require the concrete be free of curing compounds.
- Floor underlayments such as Ardex© and Tile mortar/mastic will not bond to most curing products.
- "Dissipating" compounds dissipation depends on amount of <u>sunlight</u> & <u>traffic</u> compounds receive.
- Relying on oxidation (UV light) is not a feasible alternative unless it is exterior concrete construction that is exposed to the sun (mostly in the summer) for an extended period of time.
- Shot blasting is the best way to effectively remove a curing compound *(grinding doesn't work well)*.

<mark>*The <u>quickest</u> and <u>best</u> way to try and achieve a concrete moisture level that is acceptable to a flooring material is to <u>wet/moist cure the slab 7 days</u> by installing plastic, burlap, or BurLene© on the concrete quickly after finishing (& fuzzy finish).*</mark>
(Work can occur on the plastic via a safe working surface such as plywood or similar – work with our safety department on the most appropriate & safe means of accomplishing your work)

Always request Wet/Moist curing…otherwise, we will likely need to shot blast the concrete at ±$1/SF, to remove the curing compound prior to the floor installation…do you have that number in your bid *(and who pays for it)*?

When bidding or buying out the Subcontractor, it is in the Project's best interest to make sure that they have moist/wet curing in the number… please ask/request

Plan your schedule to accommodate the required concrete curing