



SIMPROLIT

MONOLITH

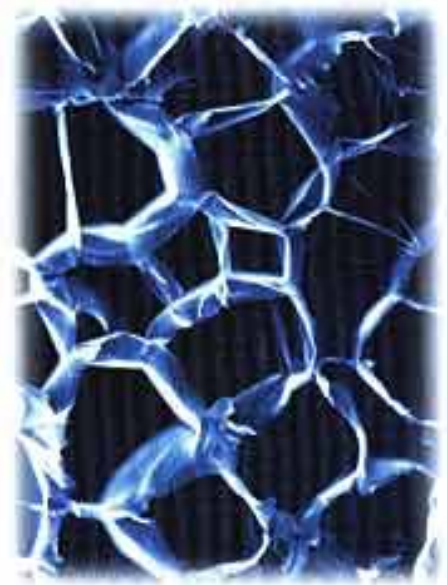
SIMPROLIT MONOLITH

Simplolit monolith represents Simplolit polystyrene concrete poured into the formwork directly at the construction site, produced according to the Technical conditions issued by the license holder.

Thanks to its excellent thermo-technical and physical-mechanical properties, Simplolit polystyrene concrete is applied wherever thermo-insulation, structural light-weightness, moisture resistance, frost resistance, fireproofing, surface strength and durability are the decisive factors for material's choice. When compared to other similar lightweight concretes or structures isolated with standard thermo-insulating materials (mineral wool, styrofoam, styrodur, etc.) Simplolit clearly stands out with its optimal characteristics, such as:

- Exceptionally comfortable living conditions in Simplolit-made buildings ,
- Good steam permeability,
- Ecological cleanliness and excellent sanitary-epidemiological parameters,
- Simplolit structures are «dry» (less then 4% humidity),
- In case of flooding, Simplolit and its products dry quickly, without any loss of strength,
- Compressive strength of Simplolit isolating layer varies between 1,0 and 2,1 MPa without deformation, but when this limit gets exceeded there is no break of the material - only deflection amounting to several millimeters,
- Simplolit monolith and structures made of it are non-flammable (flammability class NG) and at the time it is the only polystyrene concrete with such characteristics,

with each day, the application of Simplolit monolith is increasing not only in building construction, but also in road and railway construction and hydrotechnics.



In the field of building construction, Simplolit monolith is mostly applied for:

- thermo-insulation of foundation plates and walls;
- substitution of slab cement screeds, acting not only as leveling, but also as thermo-insulation and soundproofing layers;
- composite elements of facade walls with metal bearing structure (Simplolit is being casted into the formwork surrounding the members of the metal bearing structure);
- fireproofing and thermal covering of metal columns and beams;
- construction of new and thermo-insulation of old flat roofs;
- protection of corrugated metal sheet roofs, where Simplolit has not only an isolating, but also a unique fireproofing function.

Application of Simplolit monolith for flat roof construction

In comparison with standard materials applied for thermo-insulation of flat roofs, Simplolit monolith clearly stands out, having:

- the best relation between strength and thermo-physical characteristics;
- the best relation between humidity resistance and thermo-physical characteristics;
- the best relation between frost resistance and thermo-physical characteristics;
- the best relation between durability and thermo-physical characteristics;
- the ability to perform several functions simultaneously: as a mechanical protection of the hydro-isolation, as a thermal layer and as an inclination layer (a 35 cm thick Simplolit monolith layer is lighter than a 5cm thick cement screed!);
- the unique ability to increase the fire protection of corrugated sheet covered roofs.



Namely, if a corrugated metal sheet serves as a bearing roof cover, Simprolit monolith:

- increases the durability of the roof cover and the complete roof structure;
- increases the fire resistance, not only of the roof cover, but also of the whole building;
- protects the corrugated metal sheet from corrosion;
- provides more stiffness of the roof cover in general and especially in case of dynamic load application (strong wind, mounting and servicing of installations, etc.)

Durability of a flat roof depends to a great extent on the physical-mechanical properties of the applied thermo-insulation layer.

As basic thermo-insulation materials the effective isolators (such as mineral wool panels with improved strength) are usually applied. However, these materials have a lot of disadvantages:

- mineral wool has quite good thermal properties and fire resistance (in contrast to the styrofoam), but even mineral wool panel with improved strength has compressive strength of just 0.1MPa, with corresponding deformation of at least 10%, which means that it can not be applied independently as a base for hydro-isolation. In opposite, sinking of the roof surface may appear, causing rapid material destruction;
- Simprolit has practically constant calculated humidity percentage - from 4% (in environment with normal air humidity) to 8% (in environment with air humidity up to 99%) – while mineral wool, for example, with just 1% humidity increment, loses almost 20% of its thermo-insulation ability;
- inability to form autonomous roof slants represents a significant disadvantage of mineral wool and styrofoam panels; therefore, even though both mineral wool and styrofoam stand for very light materials, isolating a flat roof with mineral wool panels also means using two layers of reinforced cement screed - one as a base and the other for protection of hydro-insulation and finally a 10 cm thick (or more) inclination layer - resulting in total of



300-400% larger weight of structure than the one that could be achieved using Simplolit polystyrene concrete; mineral wool also has 2-3 times lesser durability and frost resistance;

- with application of mineral wool or styrofoam for thermo-insulation of corrugated metal sheet roofs, the fire resistance of the roof becomes significantly reduced and the risk that the fire could rapidly spread over the whole building through the roof structure becomes higher; the reason for this is very simple - the ribs of the metal roof sheet together with thermo-insulation panels form a system of air channels through which the fire could easily be spread over the whole building, "jumping over" the fire-protective separation walls underneath. After several cases of buildings heavily damaged in fire and especially after a big thermo-energy plant sustained a severe destruction, the Russian Academy for Communal Management and some other meritory organizations made «Technological regulations» for design and building of corrugated metal sheet roofs, recommending application of Simplolit monolith as the best solution.

Namely, the application of Simplolit monolith as a thermo-insulation for flat roofs covered with corrugated metal sheet has a lot of advantages, such as:

- the bearing structure doesn't get overloaded;
- the appearance of undrained surfaces on the roof is impossible, because by using Simplolit monolith almost ideal slopes with sufficient strength and durability could be formed;
- hydro-isolating «carpet» operates in the best conditions, improving the total durability of the roof;
- by using the Simplolit monolith on a corrugated metal sheet roof the channels between metal ribs are filled with this monolith, increasing not only the resistance capacity and fire-safety of the roof structure, but also significantly improving its corrosion resistance, rigidity and strength when subjected to statical and occasional dynamical loads.



Application of Simplolit monolith for facade elements

Having excellent properties, such as:

- light weightiness,
- steam permeability,
- humidity resistance,
- ability to protect installed reinforcement bars and anchors from corrosion,
- surface strength,
- possibility to use any of the existing finishing materials,
- capability to take millimeter-fine shapes from the mold,
- and finally, durability - which has no equal rival between similar materials.

Simplolit polystyrene concrete is ideal for facade ornaments, attics, capitals, balusters etc. For example, the slope-shaped facade ornaments designed for a Moscow building, with dimensions 40/60,45,30,15/10cm and with calculated weight of 625 kg/m (plus the additional necessary plastering), were successfully replaced by Simplolit monolith made ornaments that had the same shape, but better quality and weight of just 45 kg/m (together with finishing).

By application of Simplolit monolith, the Architect gets a quality material that doesn't restrict his free architectural expression. It also helps in solving a lot of problems concerning the fulfilling of requirements issued by the authorized Institutions for protection of architectural inheritance and ambiental environment. On the other hand, the problems related to the steam permeability, relatively large weight of facade ornaments, their frost and humidity resistance, or consequently the problem of facade durability in contemporary architectural buildings are easy to solve.



Application of Simplolit monolith as a thermo-insulating and soundproofing cement screed

In order to make a base layer for final flooring (parquetry, linoleum, ceramic tiles, etc.) and to level the floor, a 30-50 mm thick cement screed is usually placed on the top of the slab.

As a rule, this cement screed is placed over certain thermo-insulating and soundproofing layers, in accordance to the specifications of the valid building regulations.

In order to prevent crack appearance, specific chemical admixtures or physical components (such as metal, glass or plastic fibers) are added to the screed. On the other hand, this makes the building procedure more difficult and significantly increases the total costs.

There is also a well-known problem of building in very short time limits. Namely, even well organized civil engineering firms that can finish three or four storeys of a concrete structure in a month, are forced to wait for another 28 days until the cement screed becomes dry and ready for flooring.

Using Simplolit monolith or its combination with precasted Simplolit floor boards all these problems can be successfully solved, because Simplolit monolith unifies the following three functions:

- leveling layer,
- soundproofing layer and
- thermo-insulating layer.

Another property of Simplolit is also very significant:

- while a 5 cm thick cement screed weighs around 110 kg/m², a Simplolit monolith screed of the same thickness weighs less than 18 kg/m².

In this way, using Simplolit monolith as a leveling screed and a base layer for final flooring, the load carried by the structural members (beams, columns, bearing walls and foundations) is significantly reduced - which directly results in lesser dimensions, reduction of the necessary reinforcement and smaller weight of the bearing



elements. This has also a direct influence on the total price of the structure (for example, if a cement screed of an 11-storey building gets replaced by a Simplolit monolith screed, a complete load carried by the foundation plate is reduced by more than 1000 kg/m² - which practically means that an additional storey could be built without change of the load).

Thermo-insulation of foundation plates and foundation walls using Simplolit monolith

Hydro and thermo insulation of foundation plates are usually installed using one of the following ways: either the hydro isolation layer is put under the foundation plate and thermo insulation is put over the plate (inside the building), or both insulation layers are placed on the top of the plate, i.e. inside the building. Both of the given solutions have certain disadvantages.

In the first case, if the hydro isolation is put under the foundation plate and next to the outer side of the foundation wall (creating a «watertight vessel»), there is a permanent danger that significant building settlements may appear, damaging the hydro isolation and leaving the building unprotected.

Besides, the thermo-insulation placed on the top of the foundation plate (inside the building), has to be protected from the steam and mechanical damages.

In the second case, if both hydro and thermo insulation are put on the top of the foundation plate, the moisture and underground water penetrate easily through the foundation plate, representing a latent danger for building's stability and durability; besides, the insulation layers placed on the top of the foundation plate reduce the usable cellar height.

For thermo-insulation of foundation walls at the depth of freezing it is strongly recommended to apply the hydro isolation over the thermo-insulation layer (between this layer and the earth) and by no means under the thermo-insulation layer (between this layer and the foundation wall); if this rule is neglected, the thermo-insulation (mineral wool, styrofoam, styrodur) loses its basic function and in time its physical properties and



integrity, as a result either of aggressive underground water influence or freezing effect.

Therefore, it is necessary first to cover the facade walls with thermo-insulation, and after that to place the hydro isolation layer and its protection against mechanical damage. On the other hand, this procedure implies prolongation of the building deadlines, increased complexity of the working processes, and consequently bigger total expenses (leaving the problem of the horizontal and vertical hydro isolation joints - between the foundation plate and foundation walls, unsolved).

By application of Simprolit monolith, these problems can be solved in a following way:

- first, the bottom layer of Simprolit monolith is placed
- then the hydro isolation is put on the top of this layer
- finally, the upper layer of Simprolit monolith is placed over the hydro isolation

whereas the thickness of the upper Simprolit monolith layer (located above the hydro isolation, just under the concrete plate) has to be determined using thermo-physical calculation, and the thickness of the lower Simprolit monolith layer (serving as a base for the hydro isolation) is determined depending on the applied Simprolit monolith class, defined by its compressive strength (minimal thickness of 40mm is recommended for this layer).

Application of Simprolit monolith for outer monolith walls casting

Nowadays, there is a frequently used method in which polystyrene monolith concrete is casted between two asbestos-cement ("salonit") boards, in order to avoid plastering before final painting of the walls.

However, such a method has not only numerous disadvantages, but also totally compromises the idea of using polystyrene concrete as a quality and durable thermo-insulating building material:



- walls "don't breathe";
- there is no possibility to control precisely the filling of the formwork made of salonit boards; these boards are not removable - they stay within the wall, so there is no way of telling if there are any voids left after casting the polystyrene concrete, especially near reinforcement intersections;
- and the greatest danger represents the existence of the excess water left in the polystyrene concrete after casting; namely, there is no possibility for this water to evaporate and only a few freeze-thaw cycles could lead to significant damage, or even to complete destruction of the wall.

Therefore, it is recommended to build this type of walls using the formwork with at least one removable side.

A procedure where structural members (walls, plates, domes, etc.) are made by casting of Simprolit monolith using a two-sided formwork with one removable side (the other side of the formwork may be for instance a Simprolit one-layer or three-layer panel) around the bearing metal structure has several advantages. Not only that it keeps the building warm and reduces the total load carried by the metal structural members, but also serves as a protection against corrosion and fire.

Besides, the application of Simprolit monolith offers the possibility of simple construction and mounting of structural members.

For example, building of large span domes using Simprolit monolith and the metal sub-structure solves not only the problem of thermo-insulation, but also reduces the total weight of the dome by more than 7 times (compared to the classic solutions). Also, it is possible to cast the dome on the ground and afterwards to lift it to the designed position, where it could be relatively easy mounted.

