



# Underlay SLU

## Cementitious Self-Leveling Underlayment

### 2. Manufacturer

Parex USA, Inc.  
4125 E. La Palma Ave, Suite 250  
Anaheim, CA 92807  
866-516-0061  
www.merkrete.com

### 3. Product Description

Merkrete Underlay SLU self-leveling underlayment is a portland cement based pourable, pumpable and free-flowing underlayment for rapid leveling of interior substrates. SLU can be poured from featheredge to 3/4" thickness in one pour. Underlay SLU is specifically formulated to smooth out and level substrates with excellent durability, and is acceptable for the installation of all floor coverings.

**BASIC USE:** Underlay SLU can be used interior for leveling uneven concrete or exterior grade plywood floors, smoothing rough and spalled concrete with a minimum amount of labor. Underlay SLU is an excellent self-leveler for large format tile installations. SLU is ideal for new construction and remodeling projects, in both residential and commercial applications.

#### Advantages

- Quick-setting
- Ideal for leveling from featheredge to 3/4" thickness<sup>1</sup>
- Installer friendly
- Minimal labor required

<sup>1</sup> Plywood installations; due to metal lath, pours must be between 1/4" and 3/4" thickness

### 4. Technical Data

| Test Parameters              | SLU  |
|------------------------------|------|
| Compressive Strength, PSI    |      |
| 7-Day                        | 2400 |
| 14-Day                       | 3900 |
| 28-Day                       | 4100 |
| Taber Abbrasion, revolutions | 633  |

**Packaging:** 50 lb. bag (22.7 kg) 48 bags per pallet | Color: Gray

**Shelf Life:** Reference Parex USA Expiration Date of Products Technical Bulletin.

### 5. Installation

*Surface Preparation:* All surfaces must be primed with SLU Primer and should be between 40° F (4° C) and 95° F (35° C). All surfaces to receive Underlay SLU must be structurally sound and well bonded to the sub floor and shall be dry, free of old adhesives, paint, wax, dirt, grease, or any other foreign materials that may inhibit bond before application of the SLU Primer.



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### Substrates

*Concrete Floors:* Prime concrete surfaces, with SLU Primer diluted 1 to 1 with water. Apply a consistent coat using a paint roller or brush. On extremely porous concrete, two applications are recommended. Allow SLU Primer to dry to a tacky surface before applying Underlay SLU.

*Plywood:* When leveling plywood surfaces prime as follows: dilute SLU Primer at a ratio of 1 gallon of SLU Primer to 1/2 gallon (1.89 l) of water, then mix in 1-1/2 gallon (5.68 l) of Underlay SLU powder. Using a broom or brush, apply slurry over the plywood subfloor. When slurry has dried, fasten galvanized metal lath to the floor.

*Special Surfaces:* For surfaces like well-bonded marble, terrazzo, and existing tile surfaces, follow the primer directions above for plywood surfaces. Metal lath is not necessary over existing tile surfaces.

### Mixing

*Concrete:* In a clean container, mix one 50 lb. (22.7 kg) of Underlay SLU to water an amount not to exceed 6 quarts. Always add the powder to the liquid slowly and stir with a mechanical mixer (650 RPM) to obtain an evenly distributed and lump-free mixture.

*Plywood and Special Surfaces:* In a clean container, mix one 50 lb. bag (22.7 kg) of Underlay SLU to a mixture of 1 quart of SLU Primer and 5-1/2 quarts of water (liquid mixture should not exceed 7 quarts). Always add the powder to the liquid slowly and stir with a mechanical mixer (650 RPM) to obtain an evenly distributed and lump-free mixture.

**Application:** Pour or pump the Underlay SLU underlayment over the primed surface and spread with gauging rake or mortar spreader. Underlay SLU underlayment should be ready for light foot traffic in approximately 4 hours. When Underlay SLU underlayment has hardened; ceramic tile may be installed using one of Merkrete's latex-modified dry set mortars. For other finish materials such as vinyl tile, linoleum, carpet, and wood parquet, follow manufacturers recommendations on substrate moisture content requirements: Allow Underlay SLU to dry in accordance with these manufacturer's recommendations.

**Limitations:** All surfaces must be primed with Merkrete SLU Primer and should be between 40° F (4° C) and 95° F (35° C). Use caution; do not allow mortar to freeze for the first 72 hours. For interior use only. Do not use over gypsum-based surfaces. Underlay SLU is not a wearing surface. Deflection of the substrate can not exceed 1/360 of the span including live and dead load. For use of Underlay SLU over additional substrates or situations not mentioned in these instructions, contact Merkrete Technical Services.

**Cleaning:** Water is all that is needed to remove any uncured underlayment from tools and equipment. Wash immediately after use. Clean tools and container between different mixtures.

**Coverage:** 50 lb. bag will cover 50 sf at 1/8" thickness, 25 sf at 1/4" thickness.

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### **6. Availability**

Merkrete Underlay SLU is available at leading tile houses and construction distributors. Contact Merkrete 866-516-0061 or visit our web site for the name of the nearest dealer at [www.merkrete.com](http://www.merkrete.com).

### **7. Warranty**

5 year, 10 year and Limited Lifetime warranties are available. Contact Merkrete Technical Services or visit our web site for specific warranty information. Merkrete Systems warrants that this product meets applicable ANSI standards in force at the time of manufacture.

### **8. Maintenance**

None required, but installation performance and durability may depend on properly maintaining products supplied by other manufacturers.

### **9. Technical Services**

Merkrete Systems maintains technical field representatives available throughout the country. Call Technical Services at 800-226-2424 for the nearest representative.

### **10. Filing Systems**

Merkrete architectural product information available either in catalog form, or electronically on our website at [www.merkrete.com](http://www.merkrete.com).

Parex USA, Inc.  
4125 E. La Palma Ave., Suite 250  
Anaheim, CA 92807  
(866) 516-0061 Tech Support: (800) 226-2424

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