

# CSI Colorwax

Technical Data Sheet 27.0509DS



*Helix Color Systems is a premier line of specialty decorative concrete admixtures manufactured by ChemSystems Inc. Helix Color Systems is manufactured for the discriminating installer or designer who values service and quality. Specializing in custom colors, specialty products, and superior service, Helix Color Systems offers an innovative alternative in the decorative concrete industry.*

## Description

CSI Colorwax is a water-based, wax-modified, acrylic formula coating that works as both a curing membrane and as a long-lasting, durable and decorative finish to colored concrete surfaces. CSI Colorwax casts a flat, non-gloss finish. With its excellent adhesion properties and superior resistance to ultraviolet light—as well as resistance to acids, oils, mildew and alkalis—CSI Colorwax is formulated especially for exterior concrete surfaces.

## Product Benefits

- When curing freshly placed colored concrete, CSI Colorwax can be used on the following interior and exterior surfaces:
  - Colored, imprinted concrete without release agent
  - Integrally colored concrete
  - Color hardened concrete
- Ideal for restoration projects, CSI Colorwax can be applied to existing surfaces to enrich existing color.
- When rejuvenating existing colored concrete, CSI Colorwax can be used on the following interior and exterior surfaces:
  - Integrally colored concrete
  - Color hardened concrete
  - Retail or public areas
- CSI Colorwax is user-friendly.
- CSI Colorwax is not borne in a milky-white emulsion so that the color, from package to application, is more consistent.
- CSI Colorwax is formulated to match the color of concrete after it completely dries.
- A water-based product, CSI Colorwax is easy to clean up.
- CSI Colorwax improves color consistency and comes in all standard CSI Integral Color\*.

## Pre-Application

1. Important Note: Before applying, it is very important to completely stir CSI Colorwax so that it is thoroughly mixed. Product can be stirred by hand or mixed well with a jiffy mixer.
2. Prior to application, test CSI Colorwax in an inconspicuous area to ensure compatibility. If in doubt about surface on existing concrete, consult ChemSystems, Inc.
3. For touch-up work on colored concrete, CSI Colorwax can be diluted to a 1:1 ratio with water prior to application.

## Application – Curing New Concrete

1. CSI Colorwax is best applied with a fan tipped sprayer and then back rolled. Apply in even thin coats, and avoid overspray and puddles.
2. When used for curing freshly placed colored concrete, CSI Colorwax can be applied when concrete has set to the point when you can walk on the surface without marring it and when the surface moisture has evaporated.
3. To help achieve uniformity of color, an additional finish coat of CSI Colorwax should be applied to freshly placed concrete cured with CSI Colorwax. To avoid alkalis and salts from becoming trapped beneath the finish coating and causing discoloration, the concrete should be allowed to completely cure. Before applying the finish coat, allow at least 14 days

for concrete to cure. For optimum results, allow concrete to cure for 28 days or longer.

## Application – Sealing Existing Concrete

1. Surface must be thoroughly cleaned, rinsed, and allowed to dry before sealing.
2. When sealing existing concrete with CSI Colorwax, test prior to application in an inconspicuous area to insure compatibility. If in doubt about surface on existing concrete, consult ChemSystems, Inc..
3. If applying over an existing sealer, a light sanding (200-500 grit) is recommended to promote better adhesion.

## Limitations and Precautions

- CSI Colorwax should only be used on colored concrete. CSI Colorwax is not meant to be the primary coloring system.
- As a water-based product, CSI Colorwax may not adhere, or it may soften, if applied too heavily, if not allowed to completely dry, or if not applied according to directions. Surfaces with CSI Colorwax may also become slippery, especially on surfaces such as pool decks where water collects.
- CSI Colorwax may not adhere to extremely hard troweled concrete.
- CSI Colorwax is designed to match the color of fully cured concrete. Freshly placed concrete is darker than fully cured concrete.
- It is very important that CSI Colorwax be allowed to completely dry before contact with temperatures below 40° F or before contact with water.
- Concrete cured with CSI Colorwax should not be covered with plastic sheeting or waterproofing paper. If concrete needs further curing after a period of four days, then new, nonwrinkled, nonstaining, reinforced, kraft-curing paper can be used.
- Do not apply CSI Colorwax if the surface or ambient temperature is below 45°F, above 95° F, or if the temperature is expected to fall below freezing (32° F) within the 24-hour curing cycle.
- Like all coatings, CSI Colorwax requires periodic maintenance as well as reapplication.
- Adhesive-backed tape (such as duct tape) left on CSI Colorwax over an extended period of time will create a chemical “weld” between the tape and the sealed substrate. If this happens, the sealer may be subject to delamination. Delamination can also occur when plastic or synthetic rubber mats are placed on the surface and left undisturbed over extended periods and when rubber tires on the sealed surface have been exposed to heat.

## Shelf Life and Storage

Sealed, unopened product is under warranty for one year.

## Coverage Rate and Drying Times

- Coverage Rates:** Actual coverage may vary depending on the texture, porosity, age and condition of the concrete, the application method and other local conditions.
- Smooth Finish, Per Coat – Material usage, per coat, is approximately 400 square feet per gallon.
  - Rough Finish, Per Coat – Material usage, per coat, is approximately 350 square feet per gallon.

**Drying Times:** Drying times below will vary depending on surface porosity, temperature, humidity, and local conditions.

- Set to Touch – Surface can be lightly touched one to two hours after application.
- Traffic – Light traffic may be allowed six to eight hours after application. Heavy traffic may be allowed 24 hours after application.

## **Package Sizes**

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CSI Colorwax is available in 1- and 5-gallon pails.

## **Applicable Standards**

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CSI Colorwax complies with the following regulations and requirements:

- VOC regulations (less than 250 grams per liter)

## **Technical Data**

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Please refer to the corresponding MSDS for hazard-related information.

Base Color ..... Available in a wide range of CSI colors  
Odor ..... Slight ammonia odor  
Solids Content ..... 23% (without tint)  
Flash Point ..... > 200° F  
VOC Content ..... Less than 250 grams per liter  
Specific Gravity ..... 1.16  
Density ..... 9.62 pounds per gallon  
Gloss Finish ..... Matte finish

## **Product Handling**

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For complete instructions on handling and use, consult the corresponding Material Safety Data Sheet before using product.

## **Warranty**

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CSI Colorwax a proprietary product, is warranted to be of uniform quality within manufacturing tolerances. Since control is not exercised over its use, no warranty, expressed or implied, is made as to the effects of such use. Seller's and manufacturer's obligation under this warranty shall be limited to refunding the purchase price of that portion of the material proven to be defective. The user assumes all other risks and liabilities resulting from use of this product. If you have any questions, please contact ChemSystems, Inc.



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\*For complete information on all CSI products—including product information catalogs, product brochures, color charts, technical specifications, sales aids and more—contact ChemSystems, Inc.

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[www.helixcoloursystems.com](http://www.helixcoloursystems.com)

ChemSystems, Inc. 10101 Genard Road, Houston, TX 77041  
P: 713.329.9066 • F: 713.329.9065 • [www.chemsystemsinc.net](http://www.chemsystemsinc.net)