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USACE / NAVFAC / AFCEA UFGS-09965N (August 2001)  
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Preparing Activity: NAVFAC Superseding  
UFGS-09965N (September 1999)

UNIFIED FACILITIES GUIDE SPECIFICATIONS

Latest change indicated by CHG tags

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08/01

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SECTION 09965N

METALLIC TYPE CONDUCTIVE/SPARK RESISTANT CONCRETE FLOOR FINISH  
08/01

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NOTE: This guide specification covers metallic type conductive/spark resistant concrete floor finish for ordnance and other similar structures. Do not use this type of floor finish in hospitals, laboratories, or other similar occupancies where sanitation is a primary consideration. This guide specification does not cover tile or fluid-applied conductive flooring. Such systems may be found in Section 09651, "Resilient Tile Flooring" or Section 09670, "Fluid-Applied Flooring."

Comments and suggestion on this specification are welcome and should be directed to the technical proponent of the specification. A listing of the technical proponents, including their organization designation and telephone number, is on the Internet.

Use of electronic communication is encouraged.

Brackets are used in the text to indicate designer choices or locations where text must be supplied by the designer.

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NOTE: This is a very specialized product and should be well researched before this specification is used. Check with using activity to ensure that this type of floor finish is chemically compatible with explosives and solvents contemplated for use in proposed facility.

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NOTE: On the drawings, show:

1. Extent of metallic type conductive and spark

resistant concrete floor finish.

2. Required slopes, floor drains, and appropriate details.

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PART 1 GENERAL

1.1 REFERENCES

The publications listed below form a part of this specification to the extent referenced. The publications are referred to in the text by the basic designation only.

AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR TESTING AND MATERIALS (ASTM)

ASTM C 33	(1997) Concrete Aggregates
ASTM C 94	(1998) Ready-Mixed Concrete
ASTM C 150	(1997; Rev. A) Portland Cement
ASTM C 494	(1998) Chemical Admixtures for Concrete
ASTM F 150	(1989) Electrical Resistance of Conductive Resilient Flooring

1.2 SUBMITTALS

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NOTE: Where a "G" in submittal tags follows a submittal item, it indicates Government approval for that item. Add "G" in submittal tags following any added or existing submittal items deemed sufficiently critical, complex, or aesthetically significantly to merit approval by the Government. Submittal items not designated with a "G" will be approved by the QC organization.

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Submit the following in accordance with Section 01330, "Submittal Procedures."

SD-03 Product Data

Dust-on metallic surfacing material (conductive)

Curing compound

Water reducing, set controlling admixture

High range water reducing admixture

SD-04 Samples

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NOTE: If the design thickness of the topping is  
less than 50 mm 2 inches, insert design thickness in  
the blank and remove the 50 mm 2 inch requirement.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Conductive and spark-resistant floor finish

Before work is started, prepare, test, and submit sample of  
conductive and spark-resistant floor finish, 1.22 meters 4 feet  
square and [50] [\_\_\_\_\_] mm [2] [\_\_\_\_\_] inches thick. Cast sample  
on 12 mm 1/2 inch thick plywood base covered with polyethylene  
film. Mix and apply topping in accordance with this  
specification, including troweling, curing, and protection.

SD-05 Design Data

Modifications to topping mix

SD-06 Test Reports

Cement

Aggregate

Admixtures

Conductivity and Spark Resistance

Test floor finish sample for compliance with the conductivity and  
spark resistance requirements specified herein. Perform testing  
using an approved independent testing laboratory.

SD-08 Manufacturer's Instructions

Preparation of base slab

Mixing

Placing concrete topping

Metallic surfacing

Curing of floor finish

SD-10 Operation and Maintenance Data

Conductive spark-resistant floor finish, Data Package 1; G

Submit data package for floor finish in accordance with Section  
01781, "Operation and Maintenance Data."

### 1.3 PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS

1.3.1 Conductivity

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**NOTE:** Include requirement for minimum resistance when electrical convenience outlets are provided around or above floor area. This usually occurs only in work and equipment assembly areas. Use 5000 ohms for 120 volt service, 10,000 ohms for 240 volt service, and 20,000 ohms for 440 volt service. If electrical service is greater than 440 volts, consult NAVSEA for guidance.  
\*\*\*\*\*

Floor finish shall have a [minimum electrical resistance of [5,000] [10,000] [20,000] ohms and a] maximum average electrical resistance of 1,000,000 ohms. Measure electrical resistances on conditioned sample slab and on conditioned project slab using method of test specified herein.

1.3.2 Spark Resistance

Floor finish shall produce no spark when tested using method of test specified herein.

1.4 ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

Do not start work unless environmental conditions conform to manufacturer's printed instructions. Maintain recommended environmental conditions without interruption during application and curing processes.

1.5 MANUFACTURER'S REPRESENTATIVE

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**NOTE:** The requirements for the presence of a qualified technical representative of the metallic surfacing material manufacturer should be retained only for applications where strict compliance with installation procedures is considered to be critical.  
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Have manufacturer's technical representative present during start-up of each phase of work including inspection of grounding materials, preparation of base slab, mixing and placing concrete topping, application of dusted-on metallic surfacing, curing and testing.

1.6 DELIVERY, STORAGE, AND HANDLING

Deliver manufactured materials in manufacturer's original unbroken packages or containers plainly labeled with manufacturer's names, brands, lot numbers, and product expiration date. Use moisture-resistant containers. Store materials in dry, weathertight enclosures and handle in a manner that will prevent inclusion of foreign materials or damage by dampness.

PART 2 PRODUCTS

2.1 FLOOR FINISH MATERIALS

2.1.1 Portland Cement

ASTM C 150, Type I [or II].

2.1.2 Aggregate

ASTM C 33, except as specified below. Provide pea gravel, silica, traprock, or other approved materials of equivalent hardness. Gradation shall conform to the following:

<u>Mesh</u>	<u>Percent Passing</u>
9.5 mm	100
4.75 mm	95-100
2.36 mm	65-80
1.18 mm	45-65
0.60 mm	25-45
0.30 mm	5-15
0.15 mm	0-5

<u>Mesh</u>	<u>Percent Passing</u>
3/8 inch	100
No. 4	95-100
No. 8	65-80
No. 16	45-65
No. 30	25-45
No. 50	5-15
No. 100	0-5

2.1.3 Admixtures

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**NOTE: Specify these admixtures where increased slump is beneficial with respect to ease of placement, consolidation, metallic hardener application, or where a delay of initial set is desirable due to high temperature and low humidity conditions.**  
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ASTM C 494. Water reducing, normal setting (Type A); water reducing, set controlling admixture (Type D); or high range water reducing admixture (Type F). Admixtures shall not contain more than 0.05 percent chloride ions.

2.1.4 Water

Potable and free from such amounts of mineral and organic substances which could affect hardening or durability of cement-mortar topping finish.

## 2.2 GROUNDING MATERIALS

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NOTE: Ground rods should be specified for slabs on grade. Grounding studs should be specified for suspended slabs. Division 3, "Concrete" sections of project specification should specify that ground rods or grounding studs be maintained in position to prevent misalignment before and during placement of structural concrete.  
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### 2.2.1 Ground Rods

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NOTE: Specify hard copper or copper clad steel rods for normal conditions. Specify brass or stainless steel rods where electrolytic corrosion will be encountered.  
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[Hard copper] [Copper-clad steel] [Brass] [Stainless steel] not less than 20 mm 0.75 inch in diameter, 3 meters 10 feet long. Die stamp each ground rod near top with name or trademark of manufacturer and length of rod in meters feet.

### 2.2.2 Grounding Studs

Hard copper, or brass, 12 mm 1/2 inch diameter and of such length as to project into structural concrete base slab not less than 75 mm 3 inches when installed.

### 2.2.3 Grounding Connector Disks

Approximately 50 to 100 mm 2 to 4 inch diameter or 50 to 100 mm 2 to 4 inch square pieces of copper or brass hardware cloth, 4 mesh, 1.2 mm 0.047 inch wire diameter.

## 2.3 METALLIC SURFACING MATERIAL

### 2.3.1 Graded Iron Mixture

A factory-prepared dry mixture of graded iron particles, cement, and chemicals; suitable for application by the dusted-on method; and free from nonferrous metal particles, oils, grease, soluble alkaline compounds, rust and materials intended to disguise rust, and any other contaminants.

### 2.3.2 Water Content

Provide water absorbent metallic aggregate containing not more than 0.075 percent water soluble materials.

### 2.3.3 Cement Dispersing Agent

A cement-dispersing agent, a pozzolanic material capable of combining with free lime to form a water insoluble compound, and an approved binder shall be combined with metallic aggregate.

#### 2.3.4 Purity

Do not add material to factory-prepared product at job site.

#### 2.4 CURING COMPOUND

A product of the manufacturer of the metallic surfacing material or a type recommended by the manufacturer of the metallic surfacing material.

### PART 3 EXECUTION

#### 3.1 INSTALLATION OF GROUNDING MATERIALS

Provide at least one ground [rod] [or] [stud] for each 37 square meters 400 square feet or less of floor area. Place grounding materials at least 50 mm 2 inches clear and free of pipes, conduits, sleeves, anchor bolts, floor drains, or other metal building material that projects through floor finish. Place tops of [rods] or [studs] at an elevation not more than 10 mm 3/8 inch below top surface of finish floor. Do not allow [rods] or [studs] to project above finish floor elevation. Center grounding connector disks on top of [rods] [or] [studs]. Braze disks to tops of [rods] [or] [studs]. Connect each ground [rod] [or] [stud] electrically to concrete slab reinforcement steel. Connect using a copper or brass braided strap. Braze to both reinforcing steel and ground [rod] [or] [stud].

##### 3.1.1 Ground Rods

Drive ground rods vertically into earth. The maximum resistance to ground of driven ground rod shall not exceed 25 ohms when tested in accordance with paragraph "Grounding Tests." When work in addition to that indicated and specified is directed in order to obtain specified resistance to ground, provisions of the contract clause entitled "Changes" will apply.

##### 3.1.2 Ground Studs

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**NOTE: The last sentence presumes ground studs used with an existing concrete base slab. Other site conditions require a different design and wording.**  
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Connect studs together electrically using a continuous No. 6 AWG copper wire brazed to each stud and to a common ground wire connected electrically to an approved ground. Place stud interconnecting wire on, shape, and fasten to existing concrete base slab to prevent wire from lifting when concrete topping is placed.

#### 3.2 PREPARATION OF BASE SLAB

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NOTE: This guide specification is based on use of a bonded floor topping with thickness of 50 mm 2 inches or greater. For other installation procedures, edit specification accordingly.

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### 3.2.1 Cleaning

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NOTE: Choose from one of the following three paragraphs. Use first paragraph for wet cured slabs less than 3 days old. Use second paragraph for cured slabs between 3 days and a week old. Use third paragraph for cured slabs more than a week old.

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Wash dirt and debris from surface of base slab.

Remove dirt, oil, grease, laitance or other foreign matter from surface of base slab. Scrub surface and rinse thoroughly with clean water. Keep base slab wet for a period of not less than 12 hours preceding application of topping.

Remove dirt, oil, grease, laitance or other foreign matter from surface of base slab. Scrub surface with a 10 percent muriatic acid solution and rinse thoroughly with clean water. After rinsing, a litmus test of the wet surface shall indicate no trace of acid solution.

### 3.2.2 Bond Coat

Remove excess water or dry slab until there is no free water. Apply a cement paste, latex, latex cement, or epoxy bond coat.

## 3.3 PROPORTIONING AND MIXING OF CONCRETE TOPPING

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NOTE: Where bonded topping or base slab is of very low slump (less than 75 mm 3 inches) consider deletion of reference to excess water. Metallic surfacing material, which is a dry shake material, will require sufficient water to adequately mix with concrete topping or base slab.

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### 3.3.1 Proportioning

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NOTE: Use either compressive strength option or specified mix design.

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[Proportion concrete topping mix to provide a 28-day compressive strength of 34.5 kPa 5,000 psi, with a maximum slump of 75 mm 3 inches or less. If high range water reducing admixture is used, slump may be increased to 200

mm 8 inches.] [Proportion concrete topping mixture by volume with one part portland cement and 2 3/4 parts 10 mm 3/8 inch maximum size aggregate. Use a maximum water-cement ratio of 0.45 including moisture contained in aggregates.] Topping mix may be modified, as approved, to conform to requirements of manufacturer of metallic surfacing material.

### 3.3.2 Mixing

Perform mixing in mechanical mixers of a type in which quantities of water can be controlled accurately and uniformly. Introduce and mix aggregates so that materials are distributed uniformly throughout the mass. Add water gradually. After cement, aggregates, and water are in mixer drum, mix for two minutes. Ready-mixed concrete shall conform to ASTM C 94. Do not retemper topping mixture with water. Additional dosage with high range water reducing admixture may be permitted with prior approval of the Contracting Officer as to methods and procedures. Use only admixture specified and approved in proposed mix design.

## 3.4 PLACING, FINISHING, AND CURING

### 3.4.1 Placing Concrete Topping

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**NOTE: For bonded toppings, use as thick a bonded topping as design constraints will allow. A 25 mm one inch bonded topping is extremely difficult to install. Bonded toppings of 50 mm 2 inches to a maximum of 75 mm 3 inches are much easier to construct. Generally, the thinner the bonded topping, the more problems that will be encountered during construction and in future use.&**  
\*\*\*\*\*

Place, compact and strike-off topping mixture to the full depth of the [50] [\_\_\_\_\_] mm [2] [\_\_\_\_\_] inch screed strips. Tamp thoroughly with a grill-faced tamper (do not use a flat-faced tamper) or vibrate with a small vibrator to compact concrete topping, force out entrapped air, and ensure maximum density. Take extreme care in placing and tamping so that grounding system will not be damaged or misaligned. Form a slight cup-shaped pocket or depression, about 75 mm 3 inches in diameter and 20 mm 3/4 inch in depth in topping finish surrounding grounding connector disks on tops of [rods] [and] [studs]. Keep disk free of topping mix by protecting disk with a plastic sheet. After compacting, screeding and leveling floor surface, remove excess water by an approved method. Mechanically float surface.

### 3.4.2 Placing and Finishing Base Slab

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**NOTE: Use this paragraph for monolithic slab placement.**  
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Where metallic surfacing is to be placed directly upon base slab, place

slab in accordance with Section 03300N, "Cast-In-Place Concrete." Take extreme care in placing and consolidating concrete so that grounding system is not damaged or misaligned. Form a slight cup-shaped pocket or depression, about 75 mm 3 inches in diameter and 20 mm 3/4 inch in depth in the finish surrounding grounding connector disks on the tops of the [rods] [and] [studs]. Keep disk free of concrete and mortar by protecting disk with plastic sheet. After placing, consolidating, striking off and leveling, remove excess water by an approved method. Mechanically float the surface.

#### 3.4.3 Metallic Surfacing

Before opening, shake surfacing material containers to ensure uniformity of ingredients. After floating floor surface, dust dry metallic surfacing material uniformly on surface at a rate of not less than 4.4 kilograms per square meter 0.9 pound per square foot of surface. When metallic aggregate has absorbed surface moisture, mechanically float surface. After floating, uniformly dust on surface remaining dry metallic surfacing material to achieve a total rate of not less than 8.8 kilograms per square meter 1.8 pound per square foot of surfacing material for the two dusting operations. Apply second shake at right angles to first for even application. Repeat floating operation.

#### 3.4.4 Finishing

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**NOTE: Use 6 mm in 3 meters 1/4 inch in 10 feet  
unless operational requirements dictate the flatter  
floor. Floors with a tolerance of 3 mm in 3 meters  
1/8 inch in 10 feet cost considerably more to place.  
Floor finish checking is required from initial  
placement of concrete for floors with a tolerance of  
3 mm in 3 meters 1/8 inch in 10 feet.**  
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Finish floor to a smooth surface, free from blemishes. Test floor surface with a straight edge to ensure a tolerance of plus or minus [6 mm 1/4 inch] [3 mm 1/8 inch] in 3 meters 10 feet. Take extreme care so that conductive metallic aggregate contained in surfacing material is in full and firm contact with disks attached to top of grounding [rods] [and] [studs]. Do not float or trowel surfaces excessively in a manner that buries metallic aggregate or contaminates surfacing material during floating and trowelling operations. Protect flooring from contamination by subgrade material, tracked or spilled concrete, sand, stone, or other material during finishing operations. Remove flooring contaminated and replace with new flooring. Match approved finish floor sample in all respects.

#### 3.4.5 Curing and Protection

Cure and protect floor finish for not less than 30 days unless a longer period is recommended by the manufacturer's printed instructions. Strip floor finish of conductive curing compounds only in those areas where acceptance tests will be performed. Strip non-conductive curing compounds completely.

### 3.5 FIELD TESTS

Conduct testing in the presence of the Contracting Officer.

#### 3.5.1 Grounding Tests

Test ground [studs] [and] [rods] and interconnecting ground wire before the concrete slab is placed and again before the topping finish is placed. Before final wiring is connected to the ground rods, test each rod or group of rods for ground resistance using a portable ground testing megohmmeter developing an A.C. voltage. Equip the instrument with a meter reading directly in ohms. Use two reference ground rods of 20 mm 3/4 inch copper clad steel, not less than 1.2 meters 4 feet in length, driven 1 meter 3 1/2 feet deep. Install rods in a straight line from the ground being tested. Connect No. 14 AWG stranded wire leads with at least 600-volt insulation to the ground being tested and the two reference grounds and to proper binding posts on the instrument. Where there is more than one ground within a circle of 3 meters 10 feet at a particular location, use reference rods as driven for the "first" test for tests on the other rods without changing their location.

#### 3.5.2 Acceptance Tests

Make tests for conductivity and spark resistance of metallic finish after floor finish has been cured and dried for 30 days. Perform at least one test for each 37 square meters 400 square feet or less of floor area for conductivity and for spark resistance.

##### 3.5.2.1 Conductivity Tests

Conduct conductivity tests of finished floor surface in accordance with ASTM F 150. For compliance, the average of maximum resistances shall be within the limits specified with no value greater than 5 megohms.

##### 3.5.2.2 Spark Tests

Determine spark resistance of finished floor surfaces in a darkened space by stroking the floor vigorously with a 300 mm 12 inch metal file in a 1.8 meter 6 foot arc. Perform spark test five times in each 37 square meters 400 square feet or less of flooring area. Areas with no visible spark production will be accepted as having necessary spark resistance.

-- End of Section --