

## INFO SHEET

### Discussion about Marblesheen pools and Upgrading: with PaintnForget FP (Fluoropolymer) or PP (Hi build Epoxy)

Many pools in Australia are finished with Marblesheen (Marblelite), especially those constructed in the 1970's to 1990's. It has since been overtaken by other trowel on finishes like Quartzon.

Marblesheen is mainly a mix of white cement and crushed marble (chips about 1 – 3 mm size) that is trowelled onto a concrete pool structure in thickness from 5 to 20 mm. The finish initially would have been smooth and white. The quality however varies as it is a hand-applied finish and the skill level of the installer will impact on its look and longevity.

Note that some Marblesheen pools installed in the early 1970's may contain some asbestos as part of the mix. So be mindful of this aspect. Left alone and undisturbed is usually not an issue. However, when dry and sanding – cutting it, it needs to be done so in compliance with local regulations.

Over the years and depending on the quality of installation, pool water chemical balance and general wear and tear, it will slowly degrade. Usually it ends up with random cracks, worn areas, black staining and may be rust staining too. There can be large areas where the Marblesheen is soft and weak. Some areas may be drummy (hollow underneath) or break away completely. There may be white calcium build ups as well.

Older pools often become hard to keep clean, with algae attacks common and particles of Marblesheen getting stuck in filters.



Marblesheen can be upgraded with PaintNForget FP and PP to provide a new long lasting easy clean finish so long as some careful checking is done first.

## In general, the key points to a successful upgrade are:

- Empty pool and look closely at surface.
- Check for drummy and soft / weak areas – remove & replace.
- Check for rust spots and if from below, deal with corrosion of pool structural steel work thoroughly.
- Algae roots need to be killed with algaecide
- Calcium residues need to be removed.
- Any missing, worn or rough areas should be filled before painting.
- A thorough clean to remove all fats, dirt and loose particles.
- Apply 1 (or 2) coats of PNF Primer- Sealer
- Apply 2 (or 3) coats of PNF Fluoropolymer (or PnF PP) Colour Coats
- Allow to fully cure, refill and balance pool.

