This system is recommended for industrial and high hygiene locations where the ceramic floor tiling and tile joints have to provide an impervious finish and be resistant to spillages of aggressive materials. Examples include car body workshops and showrooms, industrial process areas, battery rooms, bottling plants, abattoirs, breweries, dairies and similar food processing environments.

New concrete bases and screeds should be wood float finished to Surface Regularity 1 and be adequately mature so that most of the drying shrinkage will have taken place (see table 3 of BS 5385:Part 3) prior to surface preparation and bedding the tiles. Where screeds are used as a base for the tiling these must be designed to sustain the anticipated loads etc.

Existing concrete bases and screeds should be suitably prepared to remove all traces of existing finishes and surface contamination to expose a clean, sound surface. The use of suitable mechanised equipment is recommended.

Any surface preparation work should not unduly roughen the surface. Surface laitance, lime bloom, curing agents etc., can be effectively removed by contained shot blasting. Wax, grease, oil contamination etc., can be effectively removed using ARDEX DGR. Consult the Priming and Preparation leaflet for further advice.

New and existing screeds can be checked for soundness in accordance with Clause 6.7 of BS 8204-1:2003.

The Ruabon floor tiles can be solidly bedded in ARDEX S38, in accordance with the product data sheet, using the appropriate toothed and notched trowel.

The enhanced adhesion properties of ARDEX S38 make it ideal for fixing dense, fully vitrified tiles and large format tiles without the need to ‘butter’ the backs of the tiles.

The tiles can be walked on and grouted after approximately 5 hours at 20°C.

ARDEX WA epoxide mortar is recommended for grouting the tile joints. The solvent free epoxide grout is resistant to a wide range of chemicals and provides impervious, easily cleaned tile joints.

Full loads can be sustained 24 hours after completion of grouting and full chemical resistance is developed after 7 days.

ARDEX WA should also be used to bed the tiles in areas of permanent, or extended, contact with aggressive chemicals and spillages as recommended in Clause 8.3.2 of BS 5385:Part 4: 1992 and areas subject to high loads and impacts.