Editorial Contact: Jeni Duddeck jduddeck@cortecvci.com
Cortec® Advertising Agency (651) 429-1100 Ext. 1114

Company Contact: Julie Holmquist jholmquist@cortecvci.com
Cortec® Corporation (651) 429-1100 Ext. 1194

Technical Contact: Rick Shannon rshannon@cortecvci.com
Cortec® Corporation (651) 429-1100 Ext. 1146

**Attention: Editor**
**August 31, 2022**
**PRESS RELEASE**

# Convenient Surface Prep Solution for Rusted Rebar in Concrete!

The ubiquitous problem of rebar rust is hard to escape in the construction industry, but there is a practical answer. As part of Cortec's High Performance Repair System (HPRS®), CorrVerter® MCI® Rust Primer simplifies surface prep by passivating corrosion on steel surfaces. It is an exciting tool to help the construction industry tackle a recurring challenge.

## The Problem of Rebar Rust

Rebar and other reinforcing metals play an integral role in providing the strength necessary to make concrete a viable building material. It is also one of the major causes of concrete deterioration. Although the high initial pH of concrete creates a naturally passive environment that protects metal reinforcement in new concrete, carbonation and cracking can lead to the formation of corrosion products on embedded

reinforcement. As rebar rusts, it expands, putting pressure on the concrete cover. This causes more cracking and concrete spalling, deteriorating the structure and eventually requiring repair.

**Effective Concrete Repair**

For a repair to be effective, exposed reinforcement is typically sandblasted to remove corrosion and promote good surface adhesion to the new repair material. The ICRI 310.1R-2008 "Guide for Surface Preparation for Repair of Deteriorated Concrete Resulting from Reinforcing Steel Corrosion," states that exposed reinforcing steel should be free of any materials such as concrete, dirt, and corrosion products that could interfere with repair material adhesion, although tightly bonded light rust is usually not detrimental to the bond of patch materials. This opens the door to a completely different level of surface prep convenience using CorrVerter® MCI® Rust Primer.

**How CorrVerter® MCI® Works**

CorrVerter® MCI® is a unique formulation of chelating agents combined with a high-solids waterborne latex with extremely low water vapor permeability. This fast drying, single-component primer converts surface rust into a hydrophobic passive layer and offers excellent protection against re-rusting of metal surfaces. These characteristics are ideal for repairs, making surface prep extremely simple. When using CorrVerter® MCI, the first step is to wire brush loose rust off the metal surface. This requires much less labor than blasting and no special equipment. The next step is to remove the excess salt, dust, and contamination by rinsing with water. CorrVerter® MCI® can then be applied by spray or brush and left to cure for 12 hours before applying repair products. CorrVerter® will turn visibly black by the time it dries to touch in about two to three hours.

**A Convenient Solution for the Construction Industry**

CorrVerter® MCI® is an exciting labor- and time-saving tool for contractors and engineers to be aware of. In addition to increasing the convenience of concrete repairs, CorrVerter® MCI® is also useful for

construction delays where some concrete was already poured, leaving rebar partially exposed to the elements until the project can resume. When the project starts again, CorrVerter® MCI® is a good way to passivate any rust that has begun in the meantime, thus forestalling additional corrosion problems that could develop as a result. Contact Cortec® to learn more about these great alternatives to sandblasting during concrete repair and rusty surface prep: **https://www.cortecmci.com/contact-us/**

***Keywords: rusted rebar in concrete, surface prep, rebar rust, construction industry, concrete deterioration, concrete repair, Cortec, MCI, concrete spalling, alternative to sandblasting***

Need a High-Resolution Photo? Visit: **www.cortecadvertising.com**