



W5 BATTWASH - INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

W5 battwash is a high alumina wash suitable for use up to 1400°C. It is designed to form a protective coating on batts, setters and other kiln furniture.

Approximate chemical composition:

Al ₂ O ₃	91%
SiO ₂	7%
Alkalis	0.3%
Loss on ignition	1.7%

PREPARATION OF SLIP

It is advisable to mix the wash at a thicker consistency than is required for use, particularly if it is to be stored in slip form. This is a precaution against sedimentation of the solids. Slight acidification of the water (add one drop of hydrochloric acid per litre) also helps to prevent sedimentation, as well as improving the working properties of the slip. A slip suitable for storage is given by mixing 1.5 kg of W5 powder per litre of water.

Before use, the slip should be well stirred, with additional water if required. When application is by spray gun, the slip should first be passed through a mesh (~0.2mm aperture) to remove any adventitious material or lumps.

APPLICATION OF WASH

W5 can be applied using a brush, roller or spray. Best results are obtained when the wash is applied to the batts before their first passage through the kiln, in a layer sufficiently thin for the batt colour to be discernible. After each of the initial four firings, further layers of the same thickness should be applied. The wash will peel if applied too thickly in a single coat.

The life of the coating will vary according to process conditions. Further layers may be applied as necessary, but care should be taken that the surface flatness is not compromised due to a build-up of uneven thicknesses. Where it is necessary to remove the layers of wash before re-coating, this should be possible by using a flat scraper.