

Blisters/Delamination

Symptoms

- Sections of the pool render appear to have become unstuck from the shell yet the pool shell is not visible.
- Small (5cm) circular/semi-circular bubbles.

Cause

- Blisters are caused by small pockets of air being trapped between the Pool render and the concrete shell. As the cement cures or the day gets hotter during application, the air expands causing a small void to be formed between the pool render and the pool shell.
- The delamination in itself is not considered a failure as pool render has sufficient inherent strength to ensure that the product stays in place.
- Blisters or delamination in first 24 hours of pool being rendered. They are unlikely to increase in number provided the pool is kept wet i.e. full of water.
- Large delaminated areas are a result of bonding failure to the shell which can be caused by:
 - Concrete shell not properly cured
 - Untreated weepers
 - Foreign material not cleaned off concrete shell prior to application
 - Surface improperly prepared
 - Pool took too long to fill (should be filled within 36 hours)
 - Extremities in drying time between areas
 - Pool was left too long without water

Solution

- Voids or hollow areas that have not lifted, cracked or broken loose are not considered a failure.
- If one large area is of concern then it may be treated by draining the pool and drilling two holes in the delaminated area. Fill with an expandable product and then patch the holes.