Floors and floor surfacing for school toilets

Peter Morgan
Nearly all toilet floors built in Africa use concrete slabs and cement floors. The best have floors which are finished off smoothly with a steel float. The great problem with concrete and cement is that it absorbs urine. This is not a problem if the floor is washed down regularly, but this may seldom happen in a public or school environment. The result is that the floor absorbs urine which smells very badly. The smell in school toilets is often associated with floors and slabs soaked by urine.
The use of Epoxy Tar Protective Coating

Experiments are being tried out with a product known as Prodortar, which is a combination of resins and blended tars and pitches. Once cured it is extremely hard and impervious. It is supplied in a two pack system which is slow curing and can be used where there is some residual moisture. It is normally brushed on to surface. This is being tried in the Chisungu school, Epworth, Zimbabwe.

The two materials are mixed and then stirred
Application to toilet floors
To a dished concrete floor
Application to toilet floors
To the concrete surround of a fibreglass slab
Application to toilet floors

Application to doored (concrete floor) and spiral structures (fibreglass slab and concrete surround)
Design and maintenance of floors

It is essential that all floors are sloped towards the squat hole and cement work is made as smooth as possible.

Floors must be washed down with water regularly.