

### **TB015**

**Category: EIFS, Stucco**

**Keywords: EIFS, Stucco, Hot Weather, Moist Curing**

#### **Applying Products in hot weather**

With any product application in the summer, working early during the cooler temperatures and following the shade around the building and out of the direct sunlight and wind is always recommended.

It is also imperative to store the products in a cool, or even an air conditioned area, and when mixing is required, to use cool water. Let hot water run out of hoses before using water from them.

Aesthetic issues can occur in finishes of all types due to different rates of drying occurring between areas in shade versus those in the sun. For example, scaffolding will create shadow lines where the finish dries more slowly than adjacent areas. To help prevent this from occurring, the exterior should be tarped to limit the uneven sun exposure and different drying rates which can result in different colors.

Finally, always take into account that working times of products decreases in hot weather and sufficient manpower should be utilized to prevent cold joints in the finish.

#### **Stucco basecoats**

All Parex USA 100 and 300 Series stucco basecoats require moist curing. Without moist curing, mix water in the basecoat is lost to evaporation into the air and to absorption into concrete and masonry substrates. Dampening those substrate first reduces absorption into them, and fogging the set basecoat with a light mist of water replaces mix water lost to evaporation. Without this additional water, a weak bond can form between the cementitious coats of materials.

Parex USA Adacryl Admix and bonding agent used as an admix in the cementitious materials will help retain the water content in the mixes for a longer period of time helping reduce the loss of moisture. When used as a bonding agent, it will slow the absorption of the mix water and allow for better hydration of the brown coat at the cement finish bond line.

## Cement Finishes

Moisture in stucco cement finishes is necessary for proper curing of the cement in them. The cement finish should be applied to a moistened stucco basecoat. Moist curing the cement finish is allowed and may also help retain the moisture; if the cement finish will be moist cured, it should be done immediately after it is applied and dry to the touch. Moist curing helps maintain the original water, helps to develop the hardness of the finish and prevents uneven or excessive evaporation of moisture from finish during hot, dry or windy weather. Moist curing is done several times per day, with a gentle, fine spray evenly over the wall for a couple of days, or longer if very windy, dry and hot, keeping in mind that excessive watering can result in increased color differences.

## EIFS basecoats and Acrylic Finishes

EIFS base coats are never to be moist cured. Moist curing interferes with the film formation of the polymer in them. This applies equally to cementitious EIFS base coats because of the polymer they contain.

During hot weather, EIFS adhesive may set too fast or skin over on the insulation board resulting in poor adhesion and the adhesive must be scraped off and re-applied. However, dampening surface is not permitted because it adversely affect the polymer in the adhesive.

Finish may be protected from drying too fast by using a Parex USA acrylic primer. The primer will slow down and even out the suction of the base coat product, giving a more uniform application, floating, and drying of acrylic finish. When applying acrylic finishes to a hot surface or on a hot day, the finish must be floated before it skins over. Floating too dry a finish will burn the surface and create an irregular texture and color.

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