

## Repairing Attachment Holes and Slivers

**Technical Bulletin** 

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It is not uncommon for holes to be present through the EIF System for attachments that have been made to the underlying substrate. These holes could be the result of signs that have been removed from the wall, or for the attachment of scaffolding ties during the construction process, or for any number of other reasons. In any event, these penetrations must be repaired, and in a manner that does not drastically affect the appearance of the facade.

Here are two techniques that can be used to repair holes of less than 1/2" (13 mm) in diameter that have been made through the EIF System:

 Fill the hole with an acrylic latex or urethane caulking material of the same color as the finish (if the proper color match can be found commercially). When filling the hole with this material, special care must be taken to ensure that the caulking material is not spread onto the surface of the surrounding finish, but contained within the hole diameter (follow this advice for all procedures below). If a caulk cannot be found in a color to match the ParexLahabra textured finish, one additional step will be required. After the hole is filled with the caulking material, allow it to cure on the surface, and then dab the surface of the caulk with tinted Parex finish.

**Note:** Finish cannot be applied over a silicone sealant if that has been used.

- 2. For holes of up to 5/32" (4 mm) in diameter, one can put the Sand Fine finish in a plastic squeeze bottle and squirt it into the hole. Holes in the EIF System that are between 1/2" (13 mm) and 1-1/2" (38 mm) in diameter can be filled by using the techniques shown below. Choose the one that best suits the situation and is the easiest to perform.
- 3. From a sheet of EPS, cut EPS plugs to fit the holes. The length of the plugs should be approximately 1/4" shorter than the thickness of the EIF System. Put a dab of sealant on the end of the plug and push into the opening. The sealant will secure the plug in place. Fill the remaining 1/4" deep hole with sealant flush to the surrounding finish, and finish as in #1 above.

- 4. Using the urethane foam in an aerosol can, squirt a small quantity into the hole. Try not to fill the hole entirely with the aerosol urethane foam, but leave approximately 1/4" to be filled with sealant as before. This may be difficult to control with an aerosol spray as the foam typically expands very rapidly. It may be necessary to insert a metal or plastic rod, covered with wax paper, into the hole, immediately after the foam has been sprayed, to leave a space for the sealant. Another downside to this technique is the possibility of accidentally spraying the urethane foam on the surface of the surrounding EIF System, and it is extremely difficult to remove this material after a spill. The expanding urethane foam does do an excellent job of sealing the opening, but this technique can be very difficult to master correctly. Fill the remaining hole with sealant and finish as in #1 above.
- 5. For holes over 1-1/2" (38 mm) in diameter, follow the repair procedures as shown in the Parex "Commercial Maintenance and Repair Guide".
- 6. Urethane foam can be used to fill any gaps between the insulation boards in lieu of slivers. Squirt small quantities into the hole without over-spraying and once set up cut or wipe the excess urethane foam. Please make sure not to spray foam on the surface of the surrounding Insulation board.



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