

**TECHNICAL BULLETIN #5****FOG COAT APPLICATION**

Fog coat is a fine-powdered, cementitious product composed of Portland cement, lime and mineral pigments used to help in the repair of stucco discoloration. The product is mixed with water and then spray-applied to the stucco which is then absorbed by suction into the stucco. Unlike paint, which covers the stucco surface only, fog coat blends into and becomes a part of the stucco.

Although it can be used on almost all stucco textures and surfaces, fog coat is not always a standard procedure in the application of a color coat. Additionally, fog coat will not solve stucco appearance problems that are the result of texture irregularities. For instance; in a sand float finish the aggregate is floated in different directions which produce variations in the appearance that are not correctable by fog coating. Smooth and similar type textures are not ideal candidates for fogging because the suction has been minimized; therefore the fog coat may not adhere as well as it would on other textures. Fog coat on some textures may leave a chalky residue which does not destroy the integrity of the product. Fog coat should never be applied to painted or sealed stucco surfaces.

Another item to be aware of is that most stucco surfaces have very subtle variations in the color, which adds to the character of stucco. By applying fog coat, a uniform color will be created which may give the appearance of paint rather than natural stucco. If the intention of fogging is for concealing stains on the stucco, fogging may not entirely cover extremely dark stains.

**Applying extremely dark stucco colors on a building is not recommended** because most manufacturers will not produce fog coat for a dark color. Since that is the case, *this association recommends that the plastering contractor provide notice to the client informing them that fog coat may not be available and that any color discrepancies, whether caused by normal stucco application or otherwise, will not be repairable.* Because there are many factors which dictate the shade of stucco color (see TECHNICAL BULLETIN #7) fog coat is subject to these same factors and rarely will come formulated to match the exact color on any given building.

Fog coat is *not* an exact science and should not be expected to produce a perfect stucco surface. *This Association does not recommend fogging unless the possible results, such as the ones noted above, are more tolerable than the currently existing condition.*

**DISCLAIMER**

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