

TECHNICAL BULLETIN #6**COLOR VARIATIONS IN STUCCO**

Colors in stucco should not be confused with colors in paint. They differ in many ways. Stucco color moistures are a cementitious, minerally pigmented product that is directly affected by several factors including weather and job conditions. It is applied as a thin coat of wet material which will dry as the water evaporates. Some conditions which could affect stucco colors include:

- A. Hot weather such as Santa Ana conditions
- B. Variations in substrate surfaces
- C. Textures
- D. Differences in dates and times of application
- E. Curing or drying time
- F. Shaded areas of the colored surface
- G. Light reflection variations

Custom colors are sometimes requested but it is not always possible to obtain the desired color. Consistent colors can best be achieved by staying within the range of the manufacturer's standard colors. Regardless of the color, some variation can be expected. Fogging* the finish coat can blend and make the overall appearance more uniform. However, it is not always possible to obtain an exact match fog coat due to the manufacturing process.

**See TECHNICAL BULLETIN #6 on Fog Coating*

SYNTHETIC FINISHES

Acrylic and synthetic finishes over Portland cement base coats are becoming more popular as an alternative to conventional finishes. Such products, which come premixed, can be directly applied over suitably prepared substrates.

Some of the advantages over stucco of these products include:

- A. Wider range of colors
- B. Uniformity of colors
- C. Greater elasticity or elongation
- D. Greater stain resistance
- E. Greater durability and slower fading

Disadvantages over stucco of these products include:

- A. More costly

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- B. Some textures are more difficult or even impossible to achieve
- C. Slightly longer cure time of base coat is required before application

*The words stucco and plaster are used interchangeably in this document

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