

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Painting & Painted Stucco Finishes

Stucco and other portland cement based materials are highly alkaline when first mixed and applied. If stucco is to be painted, it is absolutely essential that the stucco be allowed to reach a pH of 9.5 or less, that the primer or paint is alkali-resistant and that painting be delayed until the stucco is fully cured, this normally occurs 28 days after application.

Acrylic materials are subject to deterioration and fading caused by the alkalinity of stucco and other portland cement based materials. When newly applied, Portland cement based products have extremely high pH levels. These levels, harmful to acrylics, will normally drop during the first month following installation. To avoid possible problems, follow strict Portland cement curing procedures before the acrylic coating or finish application.

Be sure to check the paint manufacture's literature and follow their directions. An alkaline-resistant primer should be used over alkaline surfaces to prevent paint degradation. Most acrylic and elastomeric coatings are already alkaline-resistant. But most other paints are not resistant to a highly alkaline condition.

Painters, before applying any paint should ascertain the alkalinity of the surfaces. This can be very simply accomplished by using a pH tester readily available at paint and lab supply stores. PH 7 is neutral, below 7 is acidic above 7 is alkaline. When painting, do not dilute paint with water as this affects adherence to stucco, and can result in spotty de-lamination.

Paint or coating applied to stucco finish that is blistering, flaking and peeling and that have either a soft underlying stucco finish or finish coming off with the paint are a result of the paint application. This type of stucco finish condition is most often associated with improperly prepared and/or premature paint applications, which stop the curing process of stucco finishes. The result of this can be a softer than normal finish as described.

This type of condition can result from premature paint applications. This can occur for a number of reasons, any one or combination of the following are the most common.

1. The stucco finish contained moisture and or was less than fully cured.

2. Premature paint application, pH levels too high or above the level considered compatible.

3. Improperly prepared surfaces, including inadequate or no primer application.

Thank you for your interest in Sika Corporation, Inc. products and for the opportunity to present this information. Please contact the Sika Corporation Technical Department at your convenience if you have any questions.

LIMITED WARRANTY NOTICE

Prior to each use of any product of Sika Corporation, its subsidiaries or affiliates ("SIKA"), the user must always read and follow the warnings and instructions on the product's most current product label, Product Data Sheet and Safety Data Sheet which are available at usa.sika.com or by calling our Technical Service Department at +1 (800) 589- 1336.

Nothing contained in any SIKA literature or materials relieves the user of the obligation to read and follow the warnings and instructions for each SIKA product as set forth in the current product label, Product Data Sheet and Safety Data Sheet prior to use of the SIKA product.

SIKA warrants this product for one year from date of installation to be free from manufacturing defects and to meet the technical properties on the current Product Data Sheet if used as directed within the product's shelf life. User determines suitability of product for intended use and assumes all risks. User's and/or buyer's sole remedy shall be limited to the purchase price or replacement of this product exclusive of any labor costs.

NO OTHER WARRANTIES EXPRESS OR IMPLIED SHALL APPLY INCLUDING ANY WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. SIKA SHALL NOT BE LIABLE UNDER ANY LEGAL THEORY FOR SPECIAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES. SIKA SHALL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE USE OF THIS PRODUCT IN A MANNER TO INFRINGE ON ANY PATENT OR ANY OTHER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS HELD BY OTHERS. Sale of SIKA products are subject to the Terms and Conditions of Sale which are available at usa.sika.com.