

TECHNICAL BULLETIN 103**COLD WEATHER APPLICATION OF ACRYLIC FINISHES**

Cold weather applications have always posed significant concerns for the stucco industry. When applying acrylic finishes during cold weather, it is necessary to follow certain procedures to ensure a quality installation.

The first step is to use a quality penetrating surface conditioner. EL REY'S PERMA-FLEX 400 masonry surface conditioner helps harden the portland cement basecoat and reduces the chance of peeling and fading.

Acrylic based finishes cure differently in winter than they do in summer. If scaffolding or trees shade portions of a wall, these areas are actually much cooler than those in direct sunlight. This difference in temperature causes uneven drying of the finish forming tiny pinholes in the surface. The result is a noticeable texture variation. This variation is evident when the scaffolding is removed and dark lines appear on the finish. These lines may seem to be a different color, but in reality, it is a difference in texture.

One solution is to drape a tarp over the outside of the scaffolding, shading the entire wall. This should be done the night before or early in the morning, well before application begins. If possible, tenting and heating the project for the duration of the stuccowork offers the greatest protection from the elements. These precautions will ensure a uniform surface temperature, allowing the acrylic finish to dry at an even rate.

To ensure a long lasting finish application, apply only when ambient and surface temperatures are above 40°F. Never apply acrylic finishes to surfaces that are frozen, or when frost is present. Always protect the wall surfaces from direct sunlight as early as possible to prevent shading.

Acrylic finishes are beautiful, long lasting, and durable. When applied correctly, acrylic finishes provide years of reliable service. It is, however, extremely important to follow manufacturer instructions and recommendations before, during, and after application.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact EL REY at the numbers listed below.



The logo for El Rey Stucco features the words "El Rey" in a large, red, serif font, with "Stucco" in a smaller, red, sans-serif font below it. A registered trademark symbol (®) is located to the upper right of "El Rey".

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