

ACCEPTANCE CRITERIA FOR PLASTER/STUCCO

For approximately 50 years the plaster/stucco industry including manufacturers, contractors, and material suppliers have tried to jointly produce an acceptance criteria for plaster/stucco without success. Based upon my own experience over those years (see my resume attached) I have written the following “common sense experiences criteria” that has proven itself over those 50 years.

My “common sense experience criteria” includes the lath and plaster being applied over a number of basic materials. One of the most commonly used is “sheer wall plywood materials”. More attention must be given by the general contractor so that the plywood sheer wall will be applied with a 1/8” gap at all intersections of the plywood upon attaching to wood or metal studs. This allows for expansion and contraction of the plywood so as to avoid cracks in the plaster. Another base material is block masonry, or brick units. **Kel-Prime** which is a bonding, sealing, curing, hardening, and primer agent, **or an approved equal**, should be applied over the masonry units before the plaster application so as to provide **even suction and bonding** to the masonry units. All the lathing and trim should be inspected to assure they have been installed in accordance with the manufacturer’s recommendations.

Kel-Crete Premium admixture, or an approved equal shall provide a **water reducer** so as to improve the psi value minimum of **2,500 psi**, and **greatly reduce shrinkage**. **Kel-Crete shall provide air entrainment** to provide protection from **climatic conditions such as freeze/thaw**. **It shall provide plasticizing for maximum workability and maximum water retention** for proper hydration. And finally Kel-Crete Premium Admixture, or approved equal, shall provide **gelling for maximum pumping** of the plaster without **mortar separation**. For additional data please see the “Plaster, Masonry, Shotcrete Specifications” on this web site.

Additional Suggestions:

- Limit fly ash used to no more than 6% per sack mix.
- For increased water retention I recommend the double-back method for three-coat plaster whereby the second coat of plaster is applied as soon as the first coat of plaster has reached a hardness so as to not be damaged.
- Apply a final coat of the Kel-Prime solution over the plaster/stucco to allow for curing in 24 to 48 hours that also works as a primer and bonder for final paint or stucco applications.