

Basics of Conducting Adhesion Testing

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

We recommend the following method for testing the suitability of an existing wall surface for the adhesive application of a Senerflex Wall System and Senergy Stucco Resurfacing System. First prepare test areas on the building so that tests are conducted on a variety of typical surfaces. On large projects there should be one test area for each 1000 square foot of wall surface. All projects should have a minimum one test area per elevation. Prepare these areas by pressure washing or cleaning with a brush and water.

Test blocks are provided by Senergy and are nominally 3 inch squares. The test blocks are mounted onto the wall using the same Senergy adhesive that will be used on the project. They must be allowed to cure on the wall for a minimum of three days prior to the actual "pull test".

We recommend a Comten Model 301 portable pull tester be used in a method shown in the following illustrations. The tensile strength of the EPS insulation board is specified to be a nominal 15 psi and each test block is a 9 inch surface. Therefore the minimum test reading should be 135 pounds without adhesive failure.

1. Mount test blocks to various cleaned sections of the wall at various heights, using the Senergy adhesive that will be used on the project.

2. Photo of a typical pull tester - Comtem Model 301

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3. Position the pull tester over the test block and line up washer on test block with fitting on pull shaft of equipment

4. Gauge face, prior to applying pull force

5. Beginning to apply pull to test block

6. Gauge face, while applying pull to test block

7. Close up of shaft end hooking around test block washer and nut

8. Fracture in EPS indicates an adequate bond between EPS adhesive and wall.
(At a minimum 135 pound test reading)

Note

BASF Wall Systems is an operating unit of BASF Construction Chemicals, LLC. (herein after referred to as "BASF Wall Systems")

Residential Policy

On one and two-family residential framed construction, BASF Wall Systems requires that the wall system selected be one that includes provisions for moisture drainage. The choices include Senturion® line of water drainage EIFS, commercial Senerflex® Wall Systems integrating moisture management features, Senergy Stucco Wall System, and Senergy Cement-Board Stucco™ Systems. Senergy Exterior Surfacing Systems for insulating concrete forms are also acceptable. There are no exceptions to this policy. Under no circumstances will BASF Wall Systems warrant the use of any other system on this type of construction without expressed written authorization from BASF Wall Systems [Residential construction using EIFS on masonry (CMU) or poured concrete does not require the additional water management provisions described above.] See the Senergy Residential Policy Bulletin for a more detailed discussion of this topic. Consult BASF Wall Systems Technical Services Department for specific recommendations concerning all other applications. Consult the Senergy website, www.senergy.basf.com for additional information about products and systems and for updated literature.

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