



SHEETROCK® Brand Lightweight Taping Joint Compound – takes a load off, literally.

Improve productivity and save wear and tear on finishing crews

Continuing its legacy of innovation, USG introduces SHEETROCK lightweight taping joint compound, weighing in at up to 40% less than conventional taping compounds. Its unique formulation provides an excellent bond for embedding SHEETROCK® paper joint tape and is perfect for use with mechanical taping tools, as well as using traditional hand-applied methods.

Most finishing jobs require significant staging of materials. Ease of handling and maneuverability are critical to productivity. Because of its lighter weight, SHEETROCK lightweight taping joint compound is not only easier to stage, but won't exhaust crews prematurely. "I'm not going back to the old all purpose mud," said John Gilligan, taping foreman at the Olympic Companies in Wisconsin. "The lightweight taping product allows my crews to work faster without ruining their bodies. At the end of the day, even the younger guys aren't as sore."

SHEETROCK lightweight taping joint compound requires less water for mixing

Mixing the compound is easier, too. SHEETROCK lightweight taping joint compound requires less water, contributing to the lightness of the compound. Less water is needed for the compound to flow smoothly through mechanical equipment, without compromising the wet tack needed to hold the tape in place. "We were told to use less water during mixing," said Gilligan. "Frankly, I was surprised that it really worked! But it does, and we not only apply it faster, but the second coat goes on better. The whole process is more efficient."

Virtually all finishers using the product celebrate the fact that there is substantially less wear and tear on their bodies. Brett Roethler, finishing foreman at the Hudson Companies, has been a commercial finisher for over a decade. "My guys are constantly carrying or pushing buckets across jobs. As soon as we tried lightweight taping, we were hooked. We immediately felt the difference in our shoulders and backs. We are able to work longer days and have fewer injuries since we started using lightweight taping."

Applying joint compound doesn't have to be messy

Typical all purpose joint compounds are mixed with water to achieve a lower viscosity, making the mud more likely to leave tracks and blobs on job site floors. This residual mud dries and then needs to be scraped up. Lightweight taping's wet tack, coupled with its extremely low weight, make the product "cling" to a taping knife more readily than standard, all purpose taping compounds. As a result, significantly less mud residue falls to the floor, reducing cleanup time, as well as significantly

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cutting back on the amount of material wasted. "Running the mechanical taping tool, no mud spilled. We had nice long strings with no drops," said Roethler. "It's not messy, greasy and has good body. Plus it stays creamy in the box. It doesn't separate." A taping compound must flow easily through the tool and hold the tape down on the surface of the wall or ceiling long enough for a coworker to wipe it down. Randy Armstrong, taping foreman at Gough Construction, said. "On a large assisted living facility job, we used the lightweight taping product. It has good wet tack and is so light we were able to complete a whole job without dropping any mud. I never expected anyone could really make a light taping mud. I'm not going back."

Lighter, cleaner, better

Fully compliant, SHEETROCK lightweight taping joint compound meets ASTM Standard C475. It covers approximately 1,000 square feet of gypsum panels per 9.4 gallons. Its formulation is perfect for hand or mechanical application. Under good storage conditions, SHEETROCK lightweight taping joint compound has a shelf life of up to nine months. "The workability and longevity of lightweight taping is great," said Armstrong. "There was no learning curve, we're getting better jobs and my guys are healthier. I never expected someone would invent a light taping mud. Thanks, USG!"