STRUCTO-BASE® Brand Gypsum Plaster

Preparation

In cold weather, all glazing should be completed and the building heated to a minimum of 55 °F (13 °C) before gypsum base or lath and plaster installation. The temperature of the building must be maintained in uniform range above 55 °F for an adequate period prior to application of plaster, while plastering is being done, and until plaster is dry. Heat should be well distributed in all areas, with deflection or protective screens used to prevent concentrated or irregular heat on the plaster surfaces.

Ventilation and air circulation should be provided to properly dry the plaster subsequent to plaster applications and proper set. This can be accomplished by keeping windows open sufficiently to provide air circulation in glazed buildings; in enclosed areas lacking normal ventilation, provisions must be made to mechanically remove moisture-laden air.

If glazed sashes are not in place and the building is subject to hot, dry winds or temperature differentials from day to night of 20 °F (11 °C) or more, openings must be screened with cheesecloth or similar material.

Application

Mixing Conventional Plaster

STRUCTO-BASE Brand Gypsum Plaster is to be mixed with sand aggregate for machine application or hand application. When mixing STRUCTO-BASE Brand Gypsum Plaster for application in STRUCTOCORE Security Wall Systems, the initial plaster mix is applied as a fog coat 1/8″ to 1/4″ thick prior to the scratch coat. See Technical Folder SA1119 for information on specific mixes for using STRUCTO-BASE Gypsum Plaster in STRUCTOCORE Security Wall Systems.

Applying Basecoat

Mix basecoat plaster by hand or in a mechanical mixer to a uniform consistency. Apply the basecoat plaster by hand or machine in one or two coats. Monolithic or unit masonry surfaces that exhibit high suction should be moderately wetted immediately before plastering.

For two-coat work over gypsum lath and masonry, apply the STRUCTO-BASE Brand Gypsum Plaster basecoat with sufficient material and pressure to form a good bond to the base and to cover well; then double back to bring the plaster out to grounds. Straighten to a true surface with a rod and darby without the use of additional water and leave it rough to receive the finish coat.

For three-coat work over metal lath or other substrates when desired, apply the STRUCTO-BASE Brand Gypsum Plaster scratch (first) coat with sufficient material and pressure to form good full keys on metal lath, and good bond on other bases, and then cross-rake. Apply brown (second) coat after scratch (first) coat has set firm and hard. Bring out to grounds and straighten to a true surface with a rod and darby without the use of additional water. Leave the brown coat rough to receive the finish (third) coat.

When applying STRUCTO-BASE Brand Gypsum Plaster over STRUCTOCORE Steel Sheets in the STRUCTOCORE Security Wall Systems, a fog coat 1/8″ to 1/4″ thick is applied as the initial coat, prior to the application of scratch coat and brown coat. See USG publication SA1119 for information on applying STRUCTO-BASE Brand Gypsum Plaster in STRUCTOCORE Security Wall Systems.