

Efflorescence Bulletin for Homeowners

PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL

Dear Homeowner,

Efflorescence is a natural phenomenon that causes white stains to occur on the surface of cement-based products, such as stucco plaster systems, concrete driveways, brick, or masonry. Cement-based products contain salts that are an inherent part of the raw materials. During periods of wet weather, moisture can cause these salts to travel through the cement matrix to the surface causing the walls to turn white. Fresh cement-based products are particularly susceptible to efflorescence.

Although this white residue is aesthetically unpleasing, it does no harm to the wall assembly. In fact, efflorescence is a common, natural occurrence and should not be considered a product or application defect.

Remedy

Fortunately, there is a relatively simple, effective method to deal with efflorescence problems. The repair process itself is called fogging, and the material used during the repair is called fog coat.

Fogging is a common process used to even out the color on most new stucco applications today. In fact, there is a good chance your home has already been fogged. Omega Products International's fog coat product is called Omega Coat, which is a blend of cement, water, and dry pigment. Omega Coat is manufactured using the same pigments and cement as the stucco finish originally applied to your home. Omega Coat is sprayed onto the wall, but, unlike paint, it will not chip, peel, or fade. The fog coat becomes an integral and permanent part of the original stucco finish, restoring your home to its original color.



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TECHNICAL BULLETIN



Proper scheduling is critical to a successful fog coat application. As previously stated, efflorescence is a condition that usually occurs in freshly applied stucco during wet weather. Therefore, it is Omega Product's recommendation that fog coating be schedule after the rainy season is over. This will greatly reduce the chance of the efflorescence returning during the next big rain and requiring additional repairs.

Omega Products International understands that the appearance of your home is very important, so if you would like to have more technical information regarding efflorescence, please call us at 800-600-6634 and ask for a copy of our bulletin on efflorescence. Further information may also be found at the following websites:

www.omega-products.com

www.stuccomfgassoc.com

www.plasteringcontractors.org

www.csi.net



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Technical Assistance

Technical assistance and information is available by calling Omega Products International, Inc. at (800) 600-6634 or FAX (951) 520-2594 or by e-mail at "info@omega-products.com".