

EIFS System over Glazed Tile, Glazed Brick, or Glass Block Technical Bulletin

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Glazed Tile, Glazed Brick, or Glass Block are not typical or suitable substrates for an adhesively attached Parex USA EIFS System. Parex accepts no responsibility for the use of these techniques mentioned below, however these techniques have been proven effective when attempting to install EIFS over glass block. It is up to the design professional to make the final decision.

First, the existing substrate should be in sound condition with no delamination or looseness. Once this has been determined, it is recommended to lightly chemically etch the surface of the substrate with a commercial phosphoric acid based, ceramic tile cleaner. Be sure to follow the recommendations of the acid manufacturer as to dilution rate, personal protection, protecting the vegetation from splash, etc. It is extremely important to rinse the substrate so that no chemical residue remains on the surface. Another alternative, but dusty method, is to physically abrad the surface with a disk grinder, or other mechanical device.

Next is to determine if adequate adhesion can be achieved over this substrate. When performing adhesion testing, be sure to do it on an area previously cleaned as is described above. The test can be done by applying a small test patch, approximately a 3 by 3 inch square, 1/4" to 3/8" thick, of Parex USA base coat to an inconspicuous area. After the adhesive cures for 4 to 5 days, set a cold chisel against the edge of the test patch and hammer it off. Failure should be by small chips breaking off and a residue of basecoat/adhesive remaining bonded. If any of the patch separates cleanly from the substrate, the bond is not adequate.

In addition, another method should also be used, and this is to embed a strip of Parex USA Short Detail mesh 356 into wet adhesive. The strip of mesh can be about 2" wide by 8" long and leave about 3 " of mesh hanging free so that after 4 to 5 days of curing, the mesh can be pulled by hand to determine what type of bond you are getting. The failure should be the mesh pulling out of the adhesive, and not the adhesive pulling off of the substrate. If the adhesive pulls off the substrate the bond is not adequate.

Multiple tests by both methods are required, at random over the wall surface, to ensure uniform results. If the adhesive adheres to the substrate, then you can proceed with the same cleaning technique over the entire wall area for the application of a Parex USA EIF System.

If the adhesion bond is not adequate in either of the above tests, flat 3.4 pound per sq. yd. G-60 galvanized expanded metal lath can be fastened through the tile into the structure to provide a new substrate. For further information regarding, application to lath, please contact Parex USA Technical Services.

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