

# **Four Stucco Refinishing Methods**

Technical Bulletin

**TB033**

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The four most commonly used refinishing methods for stucco are: Re-stuccoing, Fog Coating or Allegro Cement Coating, Acrylic/ Elastomeric Finish and Re-Painting (if the stucco has already been painted or the finish is Acrylic based). With any of these methods you will first need to prepare and clean the surface to remove any contaminants.

With any application the repair/patching of damaged areas and cracks with the use of Parex USA Adacryl Admix & Bonding Agent is recommended. A portland cement based skim/leveling coat may be required over an existing UN-painted, textured or sandblasted surface as required to achieve a uniform level of suction before refinishing, this will also help reduce the telegraphing of repairs. **Note:** Smooth trowel cementitious finishes, even if not painted require some form of etching (light sandblasting is the most common method) prior to refinishing with a cement based stucco finish.

Parex USA's Stucco Level Coat can be used to level minor surface irregularities and embed Parex USA fiberglass reinforcing mesh.

**Note:** Cracks should be bridged with a Parex USA fiberglass reinforcing mesh embedded in a skim coat of Stucco Level Coat or other appropriate Parex USA Base Coat and Adhesive. This is recommended to reduce the chance of cracks transferring through the new finish. If the embedding of mesh option is selected, the entire surface should be skim coated uniformly to reduce the possibility of color variation. Please note, Stucco Level Coat and most other Parex USA Base Coats are **not** compatible with painted surfaces.

**Re-stuccoing:** Surfaces consists of re-coating the entire surface with the selected finish. Painted surfaces must have the paint removed with appropriate and necessary methods, prior to the application of cementitious stucco finishes. This is followed by rinsing the surface clean to remove any loose material. In the case of a cementitious exterior stucco finish, the use of Parex USA Adacryl Admix & Bonding Agent is recommended. Use Parex USA Acrylic Primer prior to the application of an Acrylic or Elastomeric Finish.

**Fog Coating:** Pressure washing/ low pressure water blasting is the preparation for unpainted surfaces. Fog Coat is the recommended application for refreshing or blending repairs on same color UN-painted stucco finishes. Fog Coat is not recommended for application over high-density smooth surfaces.

**Allegro Cement Coating** is recommended for changing the color of all unpainted cementitious stucco finishes including Smooth stucco finishes, such as Santa Barbara Mission Finish.

**Acrylic/Elastomeric Finishes:** Pressure washing/water blasting is the preparation for Acrylic and Elastomeric finish applications. Their applications are similar to that of cement stucco finishes although the techniques for the finishing of them are different. Elastomeric finishes perform very well, bridging small cracks better than cement based finishes. Acrylic and Elastomeric finishes can be directly applied to existing acrylic based painted surfaces that demonstrate good adhesion and are not chipping, flaking or peeling. For previously painted surfaces, all loose and chalking paint must be removed, and glossy surfaces dulled.

Heavily textured surfaces may require a leveling coat prior to the application of Acrylic and Elastomeric finishes. If the textured surface is also painted, removal of the paint is recommended. An application of a Parex USA Acrylic Primer is recommended prior to Acrylic or Elastomeric Finish coat applications. For bonding to a painted surface, a non-cementitious base coat/adhesive or coating should be applied to the painted surface. Cementitious materials can cause long term weakening of the paint over which they are applied that these adhesion tests won't reveal.

**Re-painting:** Pressure washing/ low pressure water blasting is the preparation for repainting. After the surface pH of the repaired areas drops, and before painting of the entire surface, primer and paint the repairs first in order to reduce telegraphing of the repairs.

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**Corporate Office**

Parex USA, Inc.  
4125 E. La Palma Ave., Suite 250  
Anaheim, CA 92807  
(866) 516-0061  
Tech Support: (800) 226-2424

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