

## Aggregate for Portland Cement Plaster

### Technical Bulletin

#### **TB050**

**Category: Stucco**

**Keywords: Stucco Sand, ASTM C897, Excerpts**

Although sand for a stucco basecoat may not meet the sieve analysis in C897, C897 has provisions for other ways the sand can meet the standard. This Technical Bulletin describes these other ways that sand can meet ASTM C897.

#### **ASTM C 897 "Excerpts"**

##### **4.2 Organic Impurities;**

**4.2.1** The aggregate shall be free of injurious amounts of organic impurities. Except for herein provided, aggregates subject to the test for Organic Impurities, Test Method ASTM C40, and producing a color darker than the standard shall be rejected.

**4.2.2** Aggregate failing the test for organic impurities may be used provided that, when tested for the effect of organic impurities on strength in accordance with Test Method C 897, the relative strength at 7 days is not less than 95%.

**5.1.2** Aggregates failing to meet the requirements of 5.1.1 shall be accepted, provided there is evidence that plasters of comparable properties made from similar aggregates from the same source has been exposed to weathering, similar to that to be encountered, for a period of more than 5 years without appreciable disintegration.

**Note 1**-The gradation of aggregate used in Portland cement based plaster affects the workability, shrinkage characteristics, porosity and durability of the plaster.

**6.1.3** Aggregate failing to meet only the gradation limits of this specification shall be permitted to be used, provided the supplier furnishes satisfactory documentation to the specifier that the plaster made with then aggregates has an acceptable demonstrated performance record.

##### **7. Sampling and Testing;**

**7.1** The aggregate shall be sampled and tested as specified in the following methods, except as otherwise specified in this specification.

##### **8. Inspection**

**8.1** Inspection of the material shall be agreed upon between the purchaser and supplier as part of the purchase contract.

**ASTM C144**, standard for masonry mortar sand for and ASTM C 897 standard for plaster sand overlap so masonry sand is not necessarily or automatically inappropriate.

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