

Adhesive & Base Coat

DESCRIPTION • *FoamFix XT* is a polymer-modified, fiber-reinforced, cementitious adhesive and base coat specifically formulated for Exterior Insulation Finish Systems (E.I.F.S.).

USES • *FoamFix XT* is used to adhere expanded polystyrene board to concrete, block, brick, and stucco. It is also used to embed reinforcing mesh into the face of the insulation foam board and as a high-build crack-resistant leveling coat.

ADVANTAGES •

- ✓ Superior adhesion.
- ✓ Ambient Open Time.
- ✓ Single component - just add water.
- ✓ High build - up to 8 mm.

TECHNICAL DATA •

Test	Criteria	Result
Tensile Adhesion (ETAG 004:2000) (N/mm ²)		
• 28 day standard condition		
On Concrete	≥ 0.25	0.70
On EPS	≥ 0.08	0.12
• 28 day SC + 2 day water immersion + 2 h dry condition	≥ 0.03	0.11
• 28 day SC + 2 day water immersion + 7 day dry condition	≥ 0.08	0.12
Water Absorption (DIN 52617) (kg/m ² ·h ^{1/2})	≤ 0.5	0.47
Impact Test (ETAG 004:2000) (w/ InsuCrete Standard 160 g mesh)	≥ 3 joules	Pass
Pot Life (minutes)	n/a	45

LIMITATIONS • Never install directly on the substrate. Do not mix or apply if ambient temperature is expected to drop below 5°C during installation or in the proceeding 24 hours, or if rain is expected in the proceeding 24 hour period after application. Do not mix or apply when ambient temperature is expected to exceed 35°C. Avoid working in direct sunlight. Temporary protection from weather and other damage must be provided at all times until entire job is completed.

COVERAGE • Coverage depends on the tools used for application, surface irregularities and roughness. Coverage is approximately 5.5 sq meters per 25 kg

bag, including adhesive and base coats. For adhesive coat only, coverage is approximately 10 sq meters per 25 kg bag; and base coat only, coverage is approximately 12 sq meters per 25 kg bag.

SURFACE PREPARATION • *FoamFix XT* can be applied on an array of bases including exterior grade gypsum sheathing on either steel or wood studs. It is very compatible with clean unpainted concrete, concrete block, brick, and stucco. All bases should be sufficiently rigid, clean of any surface contamination that may prevent good suction. Dense, smooth surfaces, and those retaining excessive amount of form release agent can cause delamination of the board from the base. High gloss, or low absorption surfaces can be made more receptive by sandblasting. Any painted or coated surfaces should be sandblasted or pressure washed to remove existing coating. Surface temperature must not be below 4°C. For best results and maximum adhesion, it is recommended that the base be straight, true to line, and plane; masonry, concrete and brick substrates should be flat within 6.4 mm in any 1.2 m radius. Misalignment of substrate can be corrected with a plaster coating. Under extreme weather conditions, and on highly porous, absorptive surface, the substrate must be sufficiently pre-moistened.

MIXING • Mixing should be completed by mechanical method, preferably with a paddle type mixer. Drill mounted jiffy type mixers at 450-500 rpm can also be used. Always add clean potable water first. One 25 kg bag of *FoamFix XT* will require 6-7 liters of clean potable water. Mixing duration should last for 2 to 4 minutes to insure proper material dispersion within mix. Let set for 10 minutes, re-temper, adding small amounts of water if necessary. Material must be free of lumps before using. The pot life is 1-3 hours depending on weather. Small amounts of water can be added during this period to adjust workability.

APPLICATION •

Adhesive Application: CAUTION: Do not install *FoamFix XT* directly on the substrate. *FoamFix XT* must be applied only on the insulation board. *FoamFix XT* may be applied by several different methods, including the notched trowel and the dab and ribbon methods. To apply by the notched trowel method, which is best suited for relatively flat substrates, *FoamFix XT* should be applied with a 13 mm deep, 9.5 mm wide notch trowel to the back of the insulation board. Hold the trowel at a 45 angle, applying firm pressure to the insulation board in order to scrap the excess adhesive from between the adhesive beads. Apply the adhesive so that the

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ribbons run vertically when the insulation board is placed on the wall. Immediately place the insulation board on the substrate, ensuring that no *FoamFix XT* mixture gets into the board joints. Do not allow the *FoamFix XT* mixture to form a skin before positioning the insulation board on the substrate, as it will affect the bond strength.

For substrates with high undulation, the ribbon and dab method is more suitable. Use a steel trowel to apply *FoamFix XT* in a ribbon at least 50 mm wide by 10 mm deep around the entire perimeter of the insulation board; alternatively dabs 100 mm in diameter may be placed at corners of the insulation board. In addition, place 100 mm diameter, minimum 10 mm thick dabs on center at frequent intervals. Immediately place the insulation board on the substrate and press against the substrate to allow the adhesive to spread on the substrate. *Note, this method is not suitable for gypsum sheathing substrates; use only the notched trowel method.*

Base Coat Application: The insulation board must be dry prior to application of the base coat of *FoamFix XT*. All insulation board irregularities greater than 1.6 mm must be sanded flat by use of a purpose built rasping tool. Using a stainless steel trowel, apply the base coat to the surface of the insulation board to an area slightly larger than the width and length of the piece of reinforcing mesh to be applied, in a uniform thickness of 1.5 mm (3 mm for heavy duty mesh). Immediately place the reinforcing mesh against the wet base coat mixture. The reinforcing fabric must be continuous at all corners and lapped or butted in accordance with applicable system's recommendations. With the curve of the mesh against the wall, trowel the mesh into the base coat from the center to the edges to avoid wrinkles, until the mesh is fully embedded and not visible. Trowel smooth to a uniform thickness slightly more than the thickness of the reinforcing mesh. Allow base coat mixture to take up until firm to touch. Trowel a second light coat of the base coat mixture over the first coat to fully cover the reinforcing mesh. The result should be such that the reinforcing mesh is approximately centered within the base coat thickness. Do not allow the first pass to completely dry prior to the second pass application or an excessive amount of base coat mixture will be necessary to fully coat the wall surface.

If a double layer of mesh is required, allow the first

layer with mesh to completely dry overnight before installing the second layer. All areas requiring higher impact performance shall be detailed in the drawings and described in the contract documents. The application shall be carried out in accordance with applicable system's recommendations.

CLEANING • Clean all tools and equipment promptly with clean water.

STORAGE • Keep material covered to prevent exposure to moisture. Store in a dry area. Shelf life is 12 months from date of purchase if stored under recommended conditions in original unopened container.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS • KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN. DO NOT TAKE INTERNALLY. Portland cement based products present health hazards. Irritating to eyes and skin. Use in adequate ventilation and do not breathe dust. Use neoprene gloves and a dust mask when handling. FIRST AID: Eyes – Do not rub eyes, immediately flush with fresh water. Skin – Wash with soap and water. Inhalation – If experience difficulty breathing or if inhaled, move to fresh air. If symptoms persist, seek medical attention.

PACKAGING • 25 kg paper bags.

Creative Concrete Concepts

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