



Refinishing an Existing Acrylic Stucco Finish

As acrylic stucco finishes age, the issue of refinishing arises. Weather conditions will determine the procedure that should be chosen.

It must first be determined what the existing acrylic finish has been applied over. Is the base a plaster mix (stucco) or is the base an Exterior Insulation and Finishing System (EIFS). Next the condition of the cladding system, whether stucco or EIFS, in relation to the substrate must be analyzed as to the original performance criteria and any necessary repairs be addressed.

Once determined whether the cladding system is in acceptable condition, a recoating process may begin.

If the base under the acrylic finish is a plaster mix (stucco), which is very rigid, then the following process may be taken:

1. Make sure the existing acrylic is free from dirt, mould, mildew, or any other contaminants and that the existing acrylic has a good bond to the stucco.
2. Coat the surface with Imasco Polybase base coat and embed Imasco regular fiberglass mesh within it to 2mm in thickness. Completely cover the mesh so that the colour of the mesh does not show and allow to cure a minimum of 24 hours at 15° C and 55% R.H. It will require longer to cure as temperatures drop and relative humidity rises.
3. After the Polybase is dry, the surface may be recoated with one of Imasco's acrylic stucco finishes.

If the base under the acrylic finish is EIFS, which is subject to a much higher rate of expansion and contraction than plaster, then a few issues must be addressed before refinishing.

- Is the project in a climatic zone where temperatures range from extremely hot to bitterly cold?
- Is the climate moderate?
- Are wind loads going to be an issue?
- Under what temperatures and humidity's will the application take place?

There are two ways to address coating over EIFS.

Step 1 – “Under hot dry conditions where temperatures fluxuate.”

1. Make sure the existing acrylic is free from dirt, mould, mildew, or any other contaminants and that the existing acrylic has a good bond to the stucco.



2. Coat the surface with Protec-J, a noncementitious base coat, and embed Imasco regular mesh within it to 2mm in thickness. Completely cover the mesh so that the colour of the mesh does not show. Allow a minimum of 48 hours to cure at 20° C and 55% R.H. It will require longer to cure as temperatures drop and relative humidity rises. It must be realized that noncementitious materials coalesce; they do not hydrate, thus taking longer to dry.
3. After the Protec-J has dried and cured an Imasco acrylic stucco finish coat may be applied.

Step 2 – “In a moderate climate with high humidity and lower temperatures”

1. Follow the procedure outlined under coating plaster mixes (stucco).