

Base & Leveling Compound

DESCRIPTION • *FoamFix ST* is a polymer-modified, fiber-reinforced, cementitious base, leveling, and adhesive compound for vertical applications.

USES • *FoamFix ST* is used as a base coat over a variety of surfaces such as concrete, plaster, block work, precast concrete, gypsum board, cement board, and wood panels in order to prepare the surface to receive a finish coat or paint. *FoamFix ST* provides a unified surface over these substrates, thereby helping to minimize color inconsistency due to variations in moisture absorption. *FoamFix ST* high adhesion strength, thanks to its high polymer modification, provides an excellent keying coat for colored stucco coats when finishing it in a scratched texture. By embedding *ShieldCrete* fiberglass mesh into a coat of *FoamFix ST*, the system may be used to minimize the transition of fine cracks from the substrate to the finish coat. The high moisture repellency properties of *FoamFix ST* also reduces efflorescence problems on the finish coat.

FoamFix ST may also be used to adhere expanded and extruded polystyrene board to concrete, block, brick, and stucco. It is also used to embed reinforcing mesh into the face of the polystyrene foam board to protect it against impact.

ADVANTAGES •

- ✓ High adhesion.
- ✓ Excellent water repellency properties.
- ✓ Flexible with excellent crack resistance.
- ✓ 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	≥ 0.08	0.08
• 28 day SC + 2 day water immersion + 2 h dry condition	≥ 0.03	0.10
• 28 day SC + 2 day water immersion + 7 day dry condition	≥ 0.08	0.09
Water Absorption (DIN 52617) (kg/m ² ·h ^{1/2})	≤ 0.5	0.25
Impact Test (ETAG 004:2000) (w/125 g mesh)	≥ 3 joules	Pass

Pot Life (minutes)	n/a	30
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LIMITATIONS • 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 40°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 10 sq meters per 25 kg bag at 2 mm thickness.

SURFACE PREPARATION • *FoamFix ST* 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 ST* 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 45 minutes depending on weather. Small amounts of water can be added during this period to adjust workability.

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APPLICATION •

Base Coat Application: For application over concrete, block work, and plaster, slightly mist the surface prior to application of *FoamFix ST*. Use a stainless-steel trowel to apply the material to the substrate in a thin layer (1-3 mm) and finish to desired roughness. If *ShieldCrete* fiberglass mesh is to be embedded into the base coat, apply the base coat to the surface of the substrate to an area slightly larger than the width and length of the piece of reinforcing mesh to be applied, in a uniform thickness of 1-1.5 mm. Immediately place the reinforcing mesh against the wet base coat mixture. The reinforcing fabric must be continuous at all corners and lapped or butted as necessary to provide the proper reinforcement. 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. Apply more material just enough so that the fiber mesh is completely covered and not ghosting through; do not apply thicker than is necessary to cover the fiber 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.

Foam Board Adhesive Application: CAUTION: Do not install *FoamFix ST* directly on the substrate. *FoamFix ST* must be applied only on the foam board. *FoamFix ST* may be applied in dabs to the back of the foam boards or applied with a 13 mm deep, 9.5 mm wide notch trowel to the back of the foam board. Hold the trowel at a 45 angle, applying firm pressure to the foam board in order to scrap the excess adhesive from between the adhesive beads. Apply the adhesive so that the ribbons run vertically when the foam board is placed on the wall. Immediately place the foam board on the substrate, ensuring that no *FoamFix ST* mixture gets into the board joints. Do not allow the *FoamFix ST* mixture to form a skin before positioning the foam board on the substrate, as it will affect the bond strength.

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 breath 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.