



# Substrate Preparation and Product Application Information

## Method Statement

### For RSA Coating Systems Over Previously Painted Surfaces

#### PREPARATION

1. Check whether the wall has been coated with oil or acrylic based paint. If oil based paint, it will need to be stripped off completely and we recommend contacting businesses that specialise in effectively removing old paint and coatings. If the wall has been previously painted with acrylic based paint, check the adhesion of the paint to the surface and then refer to step two.

#### How can you tell if your existing paint is water based or oil based?

On a rag (preferably a different colour from the paintwork) pour a decent amount of methylated spirits. Hold the rag against the paintwork for about 30 seconds. After this time, rub the paint with the rag. If the paint softens and comes off on the rag, it is water based. If the mentholated spirits does not soften it at all, it's probably an oil base.

2. Score the painted surface with a knife and cover the area with a good quality masking tape. Pull the tape away to check whether the paint adheres well or lifts away from the surface. If the paint is flaking or peeling, it will need to be completely removed before proceeding.

3. Clean the entire surface. Refer to RSA's *Cleaning and Maintenance – General Cleaning of Rendered Walls* Sheet.

**Masking:-** For all surfaces not to be coated (windows, doors, roofs, finished floors etc) we recommend masking, covering or otherwise protecting the surface prior to any application.

**Note:** For masking, we recommend only the use of high quality long life masking products.

**Cleaning During Application:-** Should any RSA product get onto surfaces that are not to be coated, clean the surface immediately with clean water. It is the applicator's responsibility to use the correct cleaning technique and product/s for each surface and to ensure the product is removed without damaging the surface.

**Note:** The clean up process must be carried out during each stage of the application of product/s.

#### Corner Beads and Trims

For detailed installation information refer to the RSA's *Substrate Preparation and Application for Set and Prep Multipurpose Adhesive* information sheet. RSA *Set and Prep* must be used to install high quality, RSA approved, UV resistant PVC corner beads and trims.

#### APPLICATION SYSTEM OPTIONS AND VARIABLES

RSA recommend acrylic on acrylic as the preferred system with the best technical integrity. Some tradespeople prefer to use a cement based product. For this reason we offer recommended guidelines and considerations on the two systems:-

**System One - Acrylic System Over Sound Previously Painted Acrylic Surfaces**

**System Two - Cementitious System Over Previously Painted Acrylic Surfaces**

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### System One - Acrylic System Over Sound Previously Painted Acrylic Surfaces

1. Assess the shine and suction of the surface. If the surface is very smooth and shiny, scuff the surface with high grit sandpaper or similar.
2. Prime surface evenly using *RSA Multiprime*. If a finishing system is to be used directly over the primer such as RSA Rapid Shield Matt, tint the *Multiprime* to the chosen colour of the finished product. (Please Note:- an experienced tradesman may assess the individual surface and deem it unnecessary).
3. Apply a coat of *RSA Flexirender* - filling the depth of the mortar joints (1 – 3mm) to bring the coat flush and even across the wall. Allow *Flexirender* to dry a minimum of 24 hours per mm prior to applying subsequent coats, RSA Trowel-On texture products or protective coatings.
4. Apply a second coat of *RSA Flexirender* or a coat of selected RSA Trowel-On texture product and finish according to individual Product Data Sheets and Application Guidelines.
5. Apply two coats of *RSA Rapid Shield Matt*.

**NOTE:-** Total system thickness should not exceed 4mm

**FURTHER NOTE:- For Raked Brickwork** - It is particularly important to allow the first coat of *RSA Flexirender* to dry for 24 hours per mm, taking into consideration the depth of the raked joint prior to proceeding with steps three and four - to allow for joint shrinkage, consistent drying times and a uniform finish.

### System Two - Cementitious System Over Previously Painted Acrylic Surfaces

1. Apply a tight coat of *RSA Set and Prep* evenly across the wall. Roughly float or scratch the surface to form a key for subsequent coats. Allow *Set and Prep* to dry for 24 hours prior to applying subsequent coats.
2. Apply *RSA Masonry Render* by steel trowel at a thickness of 2-4mm. Should a second coat of *RSA Render* be necessary or preferred, a 'tight 1-2mm coat' may be applied the same day (when first coat is firm but still 'green'). The final render coat can either be float finished when firm in preparation of an RSA acrylic texture product or sponge finished in preparation for *RSA Protective Coatings*. Allow *RSA Render* to harden for a minimum of 24 hours prior to the application of selected RSA Trowel-On texture products or protective coating.
3. Apply a coat of *RSA Flexirender* or a coat of selected RSA Trowel-on Texture product and finish according to individual Product Data Sheets and Application guidelines.
4. Apply two coats of *RSA Protect* or *RSA Rapid Shield Matt*.

**Note:-** Total coating system should not exceed 4mm.

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### APPLICATION SYSTEM OPTIONS AND VARIABLES (Cont.)

#### FURTHER NOTES:- Cementitious System - For Raked Brickwork

It is particularly important to allow the *Set & Prep* coat to dry for 24 hours prior to proceeding with steps two to four, to allow for joint shrinkage, consistent drying times and a uniform finish.

#### For Very Flat or 'Shiny' Surfaces With No Key

It may be necessary to apply a slurry coat prior to proceeding with Steps two and three. Please see Slurry Coat Application guidelines below.

#### Sealing and Keying

Sealing of sound acrylic coated walls should be carried out as follows:-

- 1) Mix a 1:1 solution of *RSA Render Bond* and water, then add *RSA Set and Prep* powder to make a slurry/sealer (e.g. into a 15L bucket pour 4L of water and 4L of *RSA Render Bond* and stir together. Then whilst gently stirring with a mechanical mixer, add **2 x 4 litre buckets full of *Set and Prep* powder**).
- 2) Apply the slurry/sealer by roller or brush agitating the mix continually whilst applying, and re-stir solution every few minutes during application.
- 3) The slurry/sealer must be allowed to dry for a minimum of 24 hours prior to the application of render.

### MIXING SET AND PREP AND RSA RENDERS

**Note:- If the mixing process is not followed the render may:-**

- **Set up fast and be difficult to apply.**
  - **'Go off' too quickly on the wall.**
  - **Be difficult to float and finish.**
1. For pump use, mix the render according to the pump manufacturer's recommendations. If the machine requires you to add dry mix please do so. For wet mix machines refer to point two below.
  - 2.
  3. Slowly add render to 3.7-4 litres of clean potable water whilst vigorously stirring with a suitable mechanical mixer (drill and paddle).
  - 4.
  3. **Mix the render for at least three minutes to activate additives.**
  5. **Allow render to stand for a minimum of five minutes to ensure that the chemical reaction of additives occurs.**
  - 6.
  5. Remix the render for one minute whilst adjusting the consistency (by adding water or render).

**Pot life:-** The pot life of mixed render when left in the shade is 2-2.5 hours.

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### APPLICATION INFORMATION

All RSA Renders can be applied in one or multiple coats depending on substrate requirements. For single coat applications, it is important to note that if floating is done too early, shrinkage may occur – highlighting mortar joints, substrate imperfections and promoting 'plastic shrinkage cracks' in the finish. Also, when floating is done too soon the bond of the render to the substrate may be reduced or can be eliminated completely resulting in unsound 'drummy' sections of render.

### NOTES

- Control/expansion/movement joints in all substrates must be carried through the trowel-on coating system to a minimum width of 10mm.
- As per standard solid plastering practice, it is important to **apply render in even coats** e.g. 3-4mm or 4-6mm. **Do not apply from 2-6mm in a single coat** to remedy poor substrate straightness. When render is applied at varying thicknesses on the same surface the render will dry out at different rates increasing the chances of 'plastic shrinkage' (where cracks may be visible in the render finish).

### OVER-COATING

When over-coating with RSA trowel-on acrylic based renders or textures, application may commence 24 hours after completion of the RSA render finish. Prior to the application of RSA protective coatings such as *RSA Rapid Shield Matt*, the substrate must contain less than 15% Wood Moisture Equivalent (WME).

### CLEAN UP

Clean all equipment immediately with water.

### LIMITATIONS

- When applied as a thin section render, the product cannot be expected to hide substrate imperfections. The products will not remedy poor quality substrate installations.
- When applied over previously painted/coated acrylic surfaces no guarantee is implied in regard to the soundness or suitability of the surface where an application of render is required. It is the responsibility of the person applying the coatings to assess suitability of the substrate and to advise their clients as required, to the possibility of failure of the previous coating system.
- RSA products are not a substitute for good solid plastering trade practices. It is the plasterer's responsibility to assess each project to determine 'best practice'. If in doubt, phone **07 3287 6444**.

### PRECAUTIONS

- RSA products should only be applied when weather conditions allow.
- Protect freshly applied products from high winds, freezing and temperatures below 5°C for 48 hours after application. The products should also be protected from rain for up to 48hrs after application.
- RSA products should only be applied within a temperature range of 5-35°C.

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