



## Portland Cement Plaster Applied to Concrete/Masonry Bases

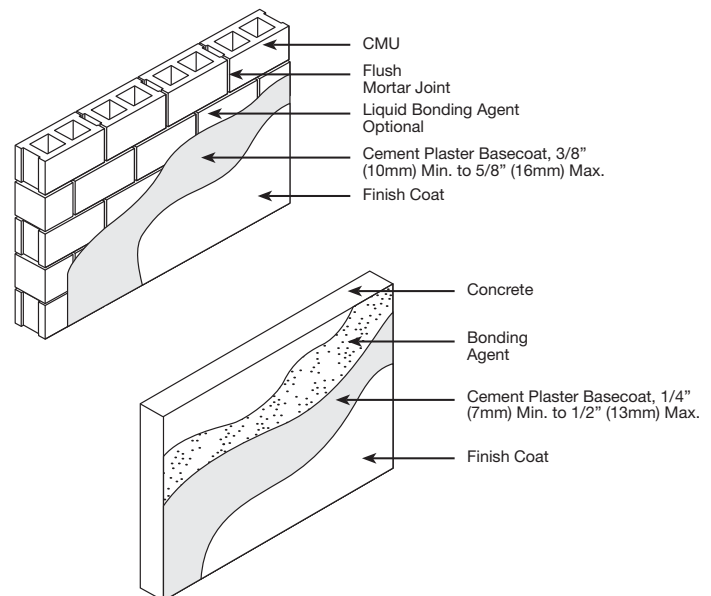
Portland cement plaster and concrete masonry share a great affinity. As such, the two materials work very well to form durable, attractive, weather-resistant walls. The use of a fluid applied or kraft paper weather barrier is usually unnecessary and not recommended. The bond between the masonry and the portland cement plaster should be maintained.

### PREPARATION

- All bases should be straight and in-line with no variation greater than  $1/4$  inch in 10 feet.
- Surfaces must be cleaned and inspected for any substance that will act as a bond-breaker.
- Concrete masonry units must be fully grouted, open-textured with joints cut flush, not tooled.
- Substrates should be fully cured, dry and carrying the design dead load prior to the application of the plaster.
- A surface-applied bonding agent conforming to ASTM C 932 may be used to insure a good chemical bond and equalize suction pressure throughout the entire face of the masonry.
- Cast-in-place concrete work: provide sufficient abrasion for a proper mechanical bond with the plaster.
- The plastering contractor must verify the type of bond breaker used prior to direct applying plaster. Sodium silicate bond breakers will dissipate and can be plastered without lath, however, petroleum, oil or paraffin based bond breakers do not dissipate and good bond cannot be guaranteed.
- Apply metal lath when form oil, paint or other bond breaking material is present. (see Bulletin 60.211)
- Overall performance of the plaster can be expected to diminish when the unwarranted use of bond breaking, water-resistive barriers are incorporated into the lathing.

### DIRECT APPLY PLASTER APPLICATION

Apply Portland cement plaster to CMU or cast-in-place concrete walls in two coats, consisting of a nominal  $3/8$  inch basecoat and a  $1/8$  inch finish coat. Cure times set forth by the IBC (International Building Code) should be followed prior to the application of the finish coat.



### JOINTS AND ACCESSORIES

The spacing of stress relief joints is less critical than in framed walls. Two-piece expansion joints should be specified where all structural joints occur in the masonry or concrete wall. Additional joints may be required to create a stop/start point where long runs cannot be completed in the course of a typical work day. Corners should be reinforced with welded wire corner aids. Install casing beads at all penetrations and terminations. Foundation weep screeds are not required in masonry work.

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