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Architectural Cast Stone Products

A Division of Speros Enterprises, Inc.

PRODUCT INSTALLATION GUIDELINES

OVERVIEW

ANCIENT STONE[®] by Vasilius is a cement based concrete product subject to normal expansion and contraction caused by moisture absorption and dissipation, as well as ambient temperature differential (heating and cooling). All such concrete products have minimal tensile strength and should be handled in a vertical fashion whenever possible to avoid potential flexing, which will lead to cracking. Shrinkage during or after the curing process may cause hairline cracking which may be further exaggerated by the normal expansion and contraction described above. Maximum curing may take up to 28 days. However, substantial curing occurs between 7 and 14 days. Therefore, installation and exposure to applied moisture should be avoided prior to substantial curing. Care should be taken during installation not to apply excessive moisture, particularly to single surfaces, in order to avoid dissimilar expansion within the material composition. All interior solid grouted cavities, such as structurally grouted column shafts, should be liberally sealed prior to grout filling to avoid excessive moisture absorption by the interior surface.

SETTING MATERIALS AND METHODS

Recommended setting materials include:

- 1) Cement based, latex modified, thin, medium or thick set mortar
- 2) Synthetic construction adhesive
- 3) Flexible floor tile mastic
- 4) Epoxy, etc.

Setting material selection should be based on the expansive qualities of the material to be adhered to. Setting material, such as latex modified thin set, for adhering ANCIENT STONE[®] to cement based and/or concrete products, requires limited flexibility to compensate for minimal dissimilar expansion. Setting material for adhering ANCIENT STONE[®] to wood, steel or plastic will require the appropriate degree of flexibility to compensate for dissimilar expansion tendencies. It is not recommended to install ANCIENT STONE[®] when installation may be exposed to freezing temperatures within 48 hours following installation. Refer to setting materials manufacturer's application recommendations. To avoid possible stress related cracking, beating or tapping products to be joined should be avoided. Mechanical fastening and/or anchors are recommended for all vertical installations and may also be beneficial for horizontal installations where additional forces may be exerted on material. Cement based adhesives should be applied to both surfaces to be adhered and should be "keyed" into each surface with a notched trowel prior to bonding. During periods of high ambient temperature, products to be bonded with cement-based adhesives should be pre-moistened to prevent rapid moisture loss of adhesive. Do not allow the surface of the adhesive to "glaze" prior to being compressed. Do not add water to or otherwise allow cement-based adhesives to be re-tempered after initial mixing. Do not exceed manufacturers recommended setting material bed thickness. Do not allow pre-packaged manufactured setting material composition to be altered.

CONTROL JOINTS

Control joints in the surface to be installed over should preferably be continued through the installed ANCIENT STONE® product. In the alternative, bridging of the joint with a suitable membrane that prevents the installed product from adhering to the base surface on both sides of the joint is recommended. The latter recommendation will result in the movement from the expansion of the control joint to be transferred to the next closest grout joint.

Joint grouting is recommended within 4 days after installation. The preferred joint width is +/- 3/8". It is recommended to allow setting materials to cure at least 24 hours prior to grout filling open joints. It is recommended that installed ANCIENT STONE® products be sealed with ANCIENT STONE® PENETRATING SEALER before and after grouting, paying special attention to applying the sealer liberally at the grout joint locations prior to grouting. ANCIENT STONE® SANDED GROUT along with ANCIENT STONE® LATEX ADMIX liquid mixture are recommended for joint grouting. Thoroughly mix the dry contents of the grout (as the aggregate, cement and color pigment may separate in transit). Add liquid mixture to grout and blend to desired consistency. Surfaces adjacent to grouted joint should be brushed clean and/or washed, as needed, prior to grout/latex drying, to avoid staining. The majority of material and grout moisture should be allowed to dissipate prior to the second application of sealer. The second application of sealer should follow within 24 hours after grouting. For most ANCIENT STONE® standard finishes, follow the instructions on the sealer label. *Special note: For all ANCIENT STONE® products with colored or multi-colored texture, apply a light misting of penetrating sealer to allow the colored texture to "set" prior to liberal application of sealer. Failure to do so will result in running or smearing of the texture color over the base stone color!*

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

The finished installation of ANCIENT STONE® can be easily cared for by either broom sweeping or hosing with a water spray. DO NOT USE A HIGH PRESSURE SPRAYER ON SURFACE OF STONE. THIS WILL LEAD TO DEGRADATION OF THE STONE SURFACE. Largely an exterior product, ANCIENT STONE® will require re-sealing on an annual basis or as desired and/or needed based on use and exposure.

INSPECT ALL PRODUCTS PRIOR TO INSTALLATION. IDENTIFY AND LAYOUT ALL PRODUCTS TO DETERMINE PROPER POSITIONING. DO NOT INSTALL ANY MATERIAL IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS. CALL FOR VERIFICATION OF ANY CONCERNS FIRST. ANCIENT STONE® BY VASILIOS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY INSTALLED PRODUCTS.