Dryvit Information Sheet - External Wall Insulation Systems (EWI)

Correcting large areas of finish damage or irregularities by localised finish replacement or re-skimming

1. Introduction

Undesirable appearance, such as blistering or delamination in the finish coat, can result from a variety of conditions such as impact damage, surface abrasion or wash-off caused by early exposure to rain or water. For small areas, it is often possible to remove the area affected and carry out a localised repair or replacement.

Application of new finish followed by a tinted compatible coating from the Dryvit range will help correct any overall colour variations, although it will not hide texture variations.

To correct texture variation between existing and new finish it is necessary to reskim the entire area with base coat, primer and textured finish.

2. Materials

The selection and compatibility of the repair and replacement materials is very important to ensure the correct materials for the relevant EWI System are used.

Information on suitable materials, mixing and application of the system is given in Dryvit's technical data sheets, material safety data sheets and application instructions. These documents and other repair procedures and guidance are available from Dryvit UK Ltd or in the Technical Literature section of our website www.dryvit.co.uk.

3. Procedure

3.1. Use a disc grinder or belt sander (aluminum oxide disc or belt, P40 or P60 grit with fitted dust extractor) or power washer to remove the finish in the damaged area and expose the base coat layer. When washing, the area should be thoroughly saturated with hot water until the finish softens before removing it with a paint scraper or similar tool. If power washing, the pressure must be set below 600 psi and only cold, unheated water should be use. The sprayer with a fan-tip nozzle is held at a 45° angle from the wall with the spray tip at least 600 mm from surface. Do not use abrasive hard-bristle brushes to remove the finish.

3.2. Examine the exposed base coat areas for damage such as holes, breaks, excessive mesh pattern, etc. Where base coat damage is present it should be repaired in accordance with Dryvit's recommended procedures.

3.3. If efflorescence (white standing) is present on the base coat it should be removed using Dryvit Efflorescence Remover.

3.4. Ensure the base coat is clean, dry and undamaged and if necessary, mask the surrounding existing finish with masking tape.

3.5. Where specified, apply the relevant primer to the exposed base coat and leave to dry prior to application of the finish.

3.6. Apply the new finish over the base coat or primed area and texture the finish to match the surrounding area.

3.7. Allow the finish to dry for a short period of time before removing the masking tape.

3.8. The Dryvit finish should be ordered to match the original lot number shipped to the job; however, exact matching cannot be guaranteed.

4. To match colour variation between existing and new finish

4.1. A compatible coating from the Dryvit range is applied to the total wall surface, this will ensure colour uniformity between new areas and existing finish coat.

4.2. Prior to the application of the coating light dirt or pollution can be removed by rinsing the surface of the finish with an atomized spray of clean water applied from a low-pressure garden type sprayer.

4.3. Hold the sprayer with the nozzle at a 45° angle from the wall and keep the spray tip at least 300 mm from the wall surface. For power washing refer to Section 3.1.

4.4. Once the surface is dry, apply two coats of the selected coating in accordance with the product datasheet.

4.5. Where possible, always extended the application to a natural break or full panel area.

5. Skimming and refinishing.

5.1. Follow steps 3.1 to 3.7 and allow the newly patched finish to dry. Apply a tight coat of base coat over the entire wall surface to a natural break (corner, reveal, sealant joint, etc.). This application method fills the existing texture to provide a flat, smooth surface for application of the new finish. The skim of base coat should only be applied at the minimum thickness required to fill the texture. Excessively thick layers may result in poor curing leading to the potential for blistering.

5.2. Allow the base coat to fully dry and inspect the surface for any imperfections that may reflect through the finish (dimpling at fastener heads, trowel marks, etc.). Correct and defects with light sanding or additional filling to achieve the required smooth surface.

5.3. When specified, apply the appropriate primer and the new finish to match the surrounding areas.

5.4. Where adjacent colours or textures need to be closely matched, it is recommended that samples of the existing material are submitted to Dryvit so they can advise on suitable materials.

5.5. For some finely texture finishes such as Sandblast and Sandpebble Fine, it may possible to apply directly over the existing finish without the need for skimming with base coat. Trial areas should be applied to verify acceptability.

6. Health and safety

6.1 Always wear appropriate PPE for the task undertaken including the use of suitable protective clothing, dust mask and eye protection where specified.

6.2 Refer to individual product Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and application instructions for full information.

DIS 12: Issue 4: 27-06-19