



# Cold Weather Veneer Setting and Pointing TDS 175M

Conventional portland cement masonry veneer setting beds, pointing mortar and mortar beds are often permanently damaged when subject to below freezing temperatures immediately after installation. The water content of a mortar turning into ice often results in portland cement gel structure rupturing with significant loss in strength, flexibility and durability. Subsequent repairs to the damaged work and resulting site delays are extremely costly.

There is a simple rule to follow when the temperature is low during installation: **The 18° (8°C) Rule** – for every 18°F below 70°F (8°C below 21°C), portland cement and epoxy based materials take twice as long to cure.

## **Polymer Fortified Mortars**

The use of a premium polymer fortified setting adhesive mortar (e.g. Hi-Bond Veneer Mortar, Veneer Mortar, Thin-Brick Mortar, Premium Mortar Bed) will allow work to continue in cold weather without costly delays or damage. For all polymer fortified mortars, the typical recommended surface temperature is 40°F (4°C) and rising. Materials cannot be applied if temperature is expected to drop below 40°F (4°C) in the next 72 hours, unless the area is tented and heated.

Rapid polymer setting adhesives (Hi-Bond Veneer Mortar Rapid) will also help to accelerate the setting time in cooler temperatures which allows work to take place and can quickly return newly installed masonry veneer back to service in cooler temperatures ...

## **Liquid Latex Fortified Mortars, Screeds and Plasters**

Mixing 60 Acrylic Admix, 101 Acrylic Admix and 8510 Bonding Admix in site mixed or otherwise unmodified adhesive mortars, mortar beds, pointing mortars and other portland cement mortars also allows work to continue in cold weather without costly delays or damage. Frost, ice and thermal shock do not damage LATICRETE® Latex Fortified Mortars after placement. Installations can be made at temperatures as low as 35°F (2°C).

## **Shipping and Storage**

For best results, always ship and store installation materials at temperatures above freezing so they will be ready to use when needed.

1. If LATICRETE liquid latex admixtures and liquid membranes are ever frozen, allow them to thaw completely before use. Allow the products to come up to room temperature of approximately 70°F (21°C). Stir contents thoroughly before use or before mixing with setting beds, pointing mortars and other portland cement mortars.
2. LATICRETE and LATAPOXY® liquid pouches stored in cooler temperatures should be warmed by submerging the unopened pouches in warm water until the material is sufficiently tempered.
3. Acclimate waterproofing membranes, and air barrier (Air & Water Barrier) products to their respective usage temperature range prior to use.
4. Store all mortars, polymer fortified adhesive mortars, latex additives and pointing products in a warm area for 24 hours prior to use.

## **Protection**

Due to the slow rate of portland cement hydration and strength development at low temperatures, protect installations for longer than normal periods. Allow extended cure time, based on the 18° Rule (above), for installation in cooler temperatures. Suitable protection should be included in the scope of work.

In addition, extended cure periods will be required for applications that include multiple layer build ups (e.g. mortar beds, waterproofing, pointing mortars, etc...). Each component must reach a proper cure prior to installing the subsequent installation product.

### **Helpful Hints**

1. Work during warm periods of the day.
2. Ensure that the surface temperature is within the suggested temperature range for the LATICRETE® or LATAPOXY® product being used during the installation and cure period. Consult the individual LATICRETE or LATAPOXY product data sheet and How to Install guide for more information.
3. Tent and heat areas that will be subjected to the elements or freezing temperatures during installation and cure periods. The installation areas should be sheltered and heated to keep the temperature above 40°F (5°C).
4. Vent all temporary heating equipment in accord with OSHA (Occupational Safety and Health Administration) and local building code regulations.

Refer to the MVMA Installation Guide, Cold Weather Application Section for more information.

Technical Data Sheets are subject to change without notice. For latest revision, check our website at [www.laticrete.com](http://www.laticrete.com)  
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