

Unitex

22 Park Drive Dandenong VIC 3175

Phone: (03) 9768 4900 Fax (03) 9768 4999 www.unitex.com.au Unitex (NSW)

14 Artisan Road Seven Hills NSW 2147

Phone: (02) 9838 0911 Fax (02) 9838 9555 www.unitex.com.au URW (Oakleigh) 1346 North Road

Oakleigh VIC 3167

Phone: **1800 RENDER**Fax **(03) 9544 3620 www.render.com.au**

URW (SA) 20 Cardiff Court Cavan SA 5094

Phone: (08) 8262 7900 Fax (08) 8262 7922 www.render.com.au

Technical Data Sheet

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render

Blended dry powder render for trowel and machine application on bare Expanded PolyStyrene (EPS) cladding boards. Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is part of the Uni-TWS® (Thermal Wall System) which is an alternative to the Unitex® Base Board System. Please note that Uni-TWS® was accredited by CSIRO Appraisals until end 2009 but is NOT complying with CodeMark, BRANZ or BRAC Certificates. Only Unitex® Base Board System has achieved a BRANZ Appraisal, a BRAC Certificate, complies with CodeMark and meets upper end Bushfire Attack Level ratings.

Description

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is a cement-based polymer modified blended powder that when mixed thoroughly with water, can be trowel or spray machine applied in typical thicknesses of 5-10 mm over Expanded PolyStyrene (EPS) cladding boards. Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is formulated with short-length synthetic fibres, which on application, intermingle to provide a reinforced render.

For project managers, builders and applicators, Unitex® Base Board Render assists your project as follows:

Provides a high build thickness of render to EPS cladding and thus fulfills a leveling and straightening function needed for a true and level wall.

Provides a high build thickness of render to EPS cladding that provides structural stability, impact resistance and protection against weather effects, including rain and wind, that is to be expected from exterior walls of homes and buildings.

Trowels on easily and smoothly in thick layers.

High build in a single pass.

Is a polymer-modified cement based render that adheres strongly with bare EPS cladding boards and also to factory coated Uni-Base Board EPS cladding boards..

Is more waterproof than conventional render.

Easily prepared. Just add water and drill to your preferred consistency.

Consistent quality.

After drying, can be overcoated with a tinted Unitex Applied Texture Finish.

Is readily available in paper sacks individually or on 60 sack pallets.

Is manufactured by Unitex in Australia.

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is part of the Uni-TWS® (Thermal Wall System) which is an alternative to the Unitex® Base Board System.

Please note that Unitex® BBR 8.5 kg Render, which is an integral component of the Unitex® Base Board System of EPS cladding, has largely replaced Unitex® Hi Fibre Render.



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Uses

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is a trowel applied or spray machine applied high build lightweight render suitable for a one coat or two coat application on bare Expanded PolyStyrene (EPS) wall cladding boards. Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is formulated with short-length synthetic fibres, which on application, intermingle to provide a reinforced render.

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is cement based and polymer modified for water resistance and strong adhesion. Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is applied direct to bare EPS wall cladding boards or to factory coated Uni-Base Board, either mechanically spray applied or by trowel and rubbed up with a suitable float to a true and even surface. A minimum curing time of 24 hours between coats is required. The product is workable at thicknesses of approximately 5-10 mm.

To complete the finishing system, Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is overcoated with Unitex Applied Finishes such as factory tinted UniTrowel Décor 146, 155, 333 or 777 "wet" textures or Uni-Cote 846 or 855 dry powder textures. After the texture is dry, a suitable factory tinted topcoat such as Uni-PTC can be applied for added protection against weather effects. Drying times between coats of at least 72 hours must be observed.

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is supplied in ready-to-use 14 kg bags. Each bag allows up to 15 litres of wet render to be prepared by mixing the bag contents with approximately 4-5 litres of clean water and drilling for homogeneity.

Coverage per bag depends on the desired thickness of the render and at the minimum recommended 5-7 mm thickness, coverage of approximately 1-2 m² can be expected.

Application Instructions

Substrates

Applied to bare Expanded Polystyrene wall cladding boards and especially to the Unitex® factory coated product, Uni Base Board.

Substrate condition

Before application of any render, the surface must be clean, dry, cured and free of any dust and debris. This means that any loose or damaged substrate must be removed, or patched and repaired, prior to application of the base render. Ensure that the surface is clean and dry. All surfaces must be free of efflorescence, grease, oil, mould, dirt, dust, release agents, bond-breakers or other contaminants that may interfere with adhesion. Note that bare EPS should not be left exposed to sunlight for longer than 1 week.

Adequate expansion joints are required to minimize cracking on the surface of the render. Location of the expansion joints is the responsibility of the Builder or Head Contractor. Unitex® recommends expansion joints to every elevation and between different substrates to allow for building movements and stresses. If such expansion joints are not provided, cracking due to movement of the substrate may occur. This is in no way indicative of faulty material. Rather it indicates sub-standard building practice.

All substrates must be dry before render is applied and conversely, all render surfaces must be dry before being over-coated. Unitex recommends testing surface dryness with a Moisture Meter (such as Protimeter) where the WME (Wood Moisture Equivalent) must be lower than 15 %.

Note: A test area of the complete Unitex® system must always be provided by the applicator for the Builder and Specifier approval.

Always contact Unitex® for specific substrate specifications.

Weather Conditions

If temperatures are less than 8 °C or greater than 30°C, Unitex® Hi Fibre Render should not be applied to a wall.

Freshly applied Unitex® Hi Fibre Render must be protected from rain, other sources of moisture and frosts for at least 48 hours.



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Mixing

As a cement-containing blended powder, Unitex® Hi Fibre Render must be thoroughly mixed with clean, potable water to a homogenous slurry prior to application. As the cement cures, the slurry will get thicker with time until it is no longer useable. The pot life is about 3 hours in ambient conditions.

Mechanical stirrers are recommended for mixing powder into water. Whilst the water content and flow of the slurry should vary slightly for different weather conditions (try for a little more water on days of higher temperatures), a good guide is to use 3 volumes of Unitex® Hi Fibre Render to one volume of water, that is, use approx. 4.5 litres of water to 1 bag of render. Unitex® Hi Fibre Render must always be mixed into water: not the other way around. Note that there is a useable application time (pot life) of about 3 hours before the slurry is no longer workable. Addition of too much water will result in shrinkage and cracking.

Application

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is trowel applied at thicknesses of 5-10 mm. With two coats, thicknesses up to 20 mm can be achieved. A minimum curing time of 72 hours between coats is required. Floating in a smooth, circular motion is recommended for a smooth, hole-free continuous surface.

Drying

In dry, mild conditions, Unitex® Hi Fibre Render should be dry after 72 hours after application. With certain site conditions such as shaded areas, lower temperatures or high humidity, drying of the render may take longer, even up to 7-10 days. Being a cement-containing product, maximum physical strength will not be achieved until 4 weeks have passed.

Always check the weather forecast before applying renders to masonry surfaces as rain, especially within the first 8 hours after application, has a tendency to damage or weaken the render, or at best, leave water marks. Heavy rain at any time in the first 2-3 weeks may leave water marks on the surface. Should rain damage occur, the render integrity and adhesion must be checked, and any necessary repairs carried out and then allowed to fully dry prior to allowing Unitex® Hi Fibre Render to be overcoated.

Both frosty conditions and excessively high temperatures should be avoided. Unitex recommends applying Unitex[®] Hi Fibre Render in temperatures above 8 °C and less than 30 °C. Should hot and windy conditions be encountered after commencing rendering, dampen the substrate with water. Do not apply render until the "wet" look has receded and the surface has absorbed the free water. This will enable Unitex[®] Hi Fibre Render to remain as workable as it is in milder conditions.

All substrates must be dry before render is applied and conversely, all render surfaces must be dry before being over-coated. Unitex recommends testing surface dryness with a Moisture Meter (such as Protimeter) where the WME (Wood Moisture Equivalent) must be lower than 15 %.

Estimating

Supply

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render

14 kg bag

60 bags per pallet

Coverage

Approximately 1-2 m² at 5-10 mm thickness.

Shelf Life

This product contains cement and must be kept dry. A shelf life of 6 months is to be expected. Discard partly filled open bags within 2 weeks of use.



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Product Safety

See MSDS

Unitex® Hi Fibre Render is classified as hazardous according to the criteria of NOHSC.

The product contains Portland cement. Portland cement is classified as a Hazardous Substance, Non-Dangerous Goods according to the criteria of NOHSC. All other components are classified as Non Hazardous, Non Dangerous Goods.

Risk phrases for Portland cement are

R36/37/38 Irritating to eyes, respiratory system and skin

R40 Possible risk of irreversible effects R43 May cause sensitization by skin contact

R48/20 Harmful: danger of serious damage to health by prolonged exposure through inhalation

Safety Phrases for Portland cement

S22 Do not breathe dust

S24/25 Avoid contact with skin and eyes

S36/37 Wear suitable protective clothing and gloves

The chemical composition of Portland cement is essentially oxides of various elements, the most prevalent being oxides of calcium Ca, silica Si, aluminium Al, iron Fe, titanium Ti, chromium Cr (mostly as insoluble Cr III but it is possible that water soluble Cr IV could be present at concentrations of less than 10 ppm). Trace amounts of oxides of magnesium Mg, potassium K and phosphorus P may also be present. As cement is a blended product, crystalline silica at levels less than 0.1 % may be present.

Not classified as dangerous goods according to the Australian Code for Transport of Dangerous Goods. NON DANGEROUS GOODS

Manufacturer's Details

Company Unitex Granular Marble Pty Ltd

22 Park Drive

Dandenong, Vic. 3175

Australia

 Telephone
 +61 3 9768 4900

 Telefax
 +61 3 9768 4999

 Website
 www.unitex.com.au

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completeness for their particular application.