



## **SPECIFICATION FOR GRANICEM 'MONOCOUCHE' RENDERS**

### **1. STORAGE**

- 1.1. Render sacks, even with hoods, are only shower-proof and should be further protected to prevent damp causing caking around the sack mouth. All products should be stored in frost free conditions
- 1.2. Shelf life is approximately one year in dry frost free conditions in original packaging.
- 1.3. It is important to note that all Enviro-rend renders are non-returnable.

### **2. TEST PANEL**

- 2.1. It is recommended that a test panel (ideally 2 square metres) be produced for inspection, and the client, architect, main contractor, clerk of works etc. should not let work commence until completely satisfied with workmanship, texture quality, colour, depth of coat, program for plastering and scraping. This should not be part of the main job and must be prepared well in advance to allow time for curing.
- 2.2. Plasterers must become familiar with the product's water requirement, workability characteristics, setting and hardening time which vary according to background, temperature and humidity.

### **3. MIXING**

- 3.1. Use approx. 4 – 5 liters of clean water per 30kg bag of Cement'in C& G base coat. And 7-8 liters per 30kg bag of Granicem. A suitable measuring bucket ensures the correct quantity and accuracy every time.
- 3.2. Mix thoroughly – it takes at least 10 minutes to dissolve the powder additives. Note how the dryish mix becomes creamy after several minutes. Mix will normally be slightly sticky.
- 3.3. Do not add anything to the mixer other than clean water.

### **4. FIRST COAT**

- 4.1. First coat of Cement'in C&G should be applied to walls in the normal fashion with hawk and trowel.
- 4.2. Thickness must be minimum 8mm and to architect's specification.
- 4.3. It is important to take special care to straighten with a darby/straight edge
- 4.4. ensure the next coat is applied to uniform level.
- 4.5. Form a light key only.

- 4.6. Allow 24 hours curing time before further application, unless advised otherwise.

## **5. MESH (optional)**

- 5.1. If a mesh has been specified the mesh should be floated into the surface of the base another skim coat of 1-2 mm may be required to ensure embedment of the mesh. The mesh should overlap by at least 100mm.

## **6. FINISH COAT**

- 6.1. Finish coat of Granicem is applied over Cement'in C&G Base Coat to line and level, using a darby or straight edge, to a minimum thickness of 4mm. If the Render is to be scratched back minimum thickness of 10mm is required..
- 6.2. One-Coat is finished to a minimum of 16- 20mm thick direct to block-work. A 16mm finish will avoid ghosting. Remember that 2 – 4mm will be scraped off.

## **7. SCRAPING**

- 7.1. Scraping should take place when the render has set but not hardened.
- 7.2. The exact timing of this operation varies according to weather conditions, the extremes being 4 to 48 hours, but next day is usually adequate.
- 7.3. The render is ready for scraping when a thumb impression cannot be made.
- 7.4. At the correct time, aggregate scrapes easily from the wall and does not stick to the scraping tool.
- 7.5. Scraping should always be done lightly, and in a tight circular motion to produce a uniform finish.
- 7.6. The object is to remove only 2 – 4mm from the complete surface.

## **8. BRUSH DOWN**

- 8.1. Immediately after scraping, use a soft brush to remove loose material. This will highlight un-scraped areas, which must be scraped at the same time to avoid colour variations.
- 8.2. If scrape patterns or marks are observed, they should be softened by further gentle scraping or brushing.
- 8.3. This is the time to repair small blemishes. Material scraped off the wall may be used for this purpose.

## **9. ASHLAR CUTTING TO TEXTURED FINISH**

- 9.1. Having scraped the surface level, the ashlar effect is achieved by cutting into the surface with an ashlar cutter to form grooves.

- 9.2. Leave a minimum 10mm of coloured Enviro-rend between the recessed ashlar cut and the substrate.
- 9.3. When forming cuts take care to avoid damaging the arises by working away from the external corner.
- 9.4. All cuts must be the same width and depth and set out uniformly as required.

## **10.COLOUR**

- 10.1. 50mm samples are provided on request for colour indication only.
- 10.2. A site sample panel is recommended to ensure that the specifier is satisfied with the render colour and texture.
- 10.3. Enviro-rend materials are manufactured from natural products, and slight shade variations may occur.
- 10.4. All areas must be scraped at the same stage of readiness, as early scraping will result in darker shades, and late scraping in lighter shades. A uniform approach is essential to achieve an even finish.

## **11.LIME BLOOM**

- 11.1. As the cement sets, lime is produced, and this may come to the surface, causing some areas to exhibit an opaque whitish layer.
- 11.2. Render is most susceptible to lime bloom in the early stages of setting, and therefore needs to be properly protected from the weather and any other sources of water.
- 11.3. Lime bloom is a temporary phenomenon, and does not affect the durability or strength of the render.
- 11.4. Do not render in cold damp weather.
- 11.5. Do not permit down-pipes, sills, copings and scaffold boards to throw water on to the setting render.
- 11.6. Do not allow washings from quoins, wills etc. to run on to the setting render.

## **12.DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS**

- 12.1. Suitably designed overhangs and flashings should be provided to prevent
- 12.2. water leakage on to the render. At ground level it is recommended that the rendering should not bridge the DPC to form a capillary path for rising damp.
- 12.3. Sills and copings should project from the face of the wall with an ample drip groove for their full length, including through the mortar joint, to ensure that water is kept clear of the render. Gutters and down-pipes must be designed with the same intention.
- 12.4. Angles may be formed using angle and stop beads, stainless steel or PVC, or using chamfered battens.
- 12.5. Plan ahead to avoid discontinuity in any one area or walling which could lead to unsightly joints in the rendering.

- 12.6. Render expansion joints must follow structural movement breaks. For other expansion joints refer to BS5262.

### **13. APPLICATION CONSIDERATIONS**

- 13.1. Before any rendering begins, it is essential to ensure that the scaffolding enables suitable access to the whole of the working face.
- 13.2. When rendering on to a base coat, water spray should be used to damp down walls prior to applying the final coat. This will control suction between the two coats.
- 13.3. Enviro-rend renders have a working temperature range of 5°C-35°C.
- 13.4. During hot weather it is recommended that work is started on the shady side of the building and continued round following the sun. In cold weather, if frost is forecast, work should stop in time to allow the material to set sufficiently to prevent frost damage. Drying conditions will vary accordingly to wind, temperature and humidity.
- 13.5. Protection from rain and frost should be provided for the first 48 hours after application.

### **14. ENVIRO-REND RENDERS**

- 14.1. There are many benefits to be gained from using Enviro-rend renders:
- 14.2. They are water resistant and extremely durable
- 14.3. Available in a wide range of attractive colours and finishes
- 14.4. Reduced risk of cracking
- 14.5. Customer service and technical back-up available