

Product and Systems Technology

Transporting, Handling, Storing—Plastering Materials

PM11

Quality plastering materials are manufactured by USG for problem-free installation in high-performance systems. Products are packaged to provide adequate protection from the plant to the point of use under normal handling in transit and in the warehouse.

When goods are shipped, the carrier is responsible for the products while they are being transported to the wholesaler, dealer or other destination. The carrier is obligated to deliver the products in the same condition as when they were accepted. After the products leave the plant, USG has no control over the way the items are treated in transit or after delivery to the consignee. The consignee should see that the materials are properly treated at the warehouse, during delivery and in storage at the jobsite. USG cannot be responsible for the performance of products that are not properly handled by others.

Delivery Inspection

When products are delivered, they should be inspected for proper quantity and possible deterioration before they are accepted. Check for physical damage to tarpaulins and covers and for scuffed edges on gypsum boards, bent or rusty steel studs and runners, water stains or wetness on board or plaster bags. If necessary, break open a bag and inspect for lumps.

Claim Procedure

The exact extent of damaged material and/or shortage should be noted on the delivery receipt which should be signed jointly by the carrier's driver and the consignee. Notify USG representative immediately if a claim arises.

Handling and Storage— Bagged Plaster Goods

Basecoat, finish and veneer plasters and other bagged products are commonly loaded on sturdy wooden pallets for fork-lift truck handling. With fully loaded pallets, the lift forks should be spaced within eight inches of the pallet edge. This practice distributes weight of the plaster more evenly and reduces chances for the pallet to break and drop the load.

Store plaster products inside in a dry location away from heavy-traffic areas. Stack plaster bags on planks or pallets away from damp floors or walls. Long-term outdoor storage is not recommended. In an emergency, bagged plaster products may be temporarily stored outdoors; proper protective measures described in PM10, "Environmental Factors," should be taken.

All gypsum plasters are susceptible to variable moisture conditions and aging that can produce variations in setting time and performance problems. Building plasters have approximately a six-month shelf life when stored as recommended. Stocks should be rotated to ensure a supply of fresh material and prevent damage to plaster through aging and contact with moisture.

Lath and plaster products should be ordered for delivery to the job just before application. Rather than ship all plaster to the job at one time, fresh plaster should be delivered as needed. Materials stored on the job for longer periods are subject to damage, abuse and possible performance problems.

Handling and Storage— Gypsum Boards

ROCKLATH® and IMPERIAL® gypsum base should be stored flat on a clean, dry floor to prevent sag or wavy edges. Vertical storage may damage edges or deform boards. If gypsum base is stored on risers or dunnage strips, they should be at least four inches wide, long enough to support the full board width and placed directly under each other vertically. Place risers within two inches of board ends and no greater than 28" apart for 14-ft. length boards, 23" apart for 12-ft. lengths, 24" apart for 10-ft. lengths, 21" apart for 9-ft. lengths and 25" apart for 8-ft. lengths. Protect IMPERIAL gypsum base from excessive sunlight and ultraviolet rays which degrade the face paper resulting in loss of bond with plaster products containing lime. See PM4, "Sun-Faded IMPERIAL® Gypsum Base," for further information.

Handling and Storage— Plastering Steel and Accessories

Expanded metal lath, steel framing, corner beads, casing beads, metal trim, clips, fasteners and other accessories should be stored indoors, on planks or platforms away from damp floors and walls. These items, having either a galvanized or painted finish, are suitable for use in a finished wall or ceiling system. The protective coatings are not designed to prevent rusting due to extreme or prolonged exposure to the weather. Corrosion on metal corner beads, trim and fasteners may bleed through finishing materials.

Store plastering steel and accessories in low-traffic areas to keep them from becoming bent or damaged. All materials should remain in their wrappings or containers until used.

**Handling and Storage—
Joint Reinforcement Products**

Powdered joint compounds and reinforcement tapes are subject to water damage and should be stored indoors, in moderate temperatures, off the floor in a dry location and away from heavy-traffic areas. Since powdered joint compounds are susceptible to moisture conditions and subject to aging (six-month shelf life) they must be procured from fresh stock and not stored for extended periods. IMPERIAL® Type P tape (pressure-sensitive), exposed to high temperatures (130 °F or more), may lose some adhesive bond. All materials should remain in their unopened packaging until used and should be regularly rotated.

**Handling and Storage—
USG Plaster Bonder and
USG DIFS Sealer**

USG™ plaster bonder and USG DIFS sealer are liquid products for use with plastering materials. They should be stored in a cool, dry place. Avoid direct sunlight and maintain temperature above 40 °F.

Conclusion

Even quality products can contribute to problems during application that result in job failures. These can occur if the products are not transported and handled properly to protect them from damage. Good storage and handling techniques, ensuring plaster products are delivered to job in optimal condition including stock rotation, are essential to correct installation and finishing of plastering that result in high-quality, profitable jobs.

Trademarks

The following trademarks used herein are owned by United States Gypsum Company: IMPERIAL, ROCKLATH, USG, USG in stylized letters.

Note

Products described here may not be available in all geographic markets. Consult your U.S. Gypsum Company sales office or representative for information.

Notice

We shall not be liable for incidental and consequential damages, directly or indirectly sustained, nor for any loss caused by application of these goods not in accordance with current printed instructions or for other than the intended use. Our liability is expressly limited to replacement of defective goods. Any claim shall be deemed waived unless made in writing to us within thirty (30) days from date it was or reasonably should have been discovered.

Safety First!

Follow good safety and industrial hygiene practices during handling and installing products and systems. Take necessary precautions and wear the appropriate personal protective equipment as needed. Read material safety data sheets and related literature on products before specification and/or installation.

