Always use the latest version of the ParexUSA Application Guide. This guide focuses on the application techniques for ParexUSA Continuous Insulation (CI) Systems.
STANDARD CI SYSTEM
Adhesively attached, standard insulation board, using vertical ribbons of ParexUSA basecoat & adhesive over an approved substrate.

WATERMASTER CI SYSTEM
Adhesively attached, standard flat insulation board, using vertical ribbons of adhesive bonded to a ParexUSA WeatherSeal product installed over an approved substrate.

LIGHT COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL (LCR)
WATERMASTER CI SYSTEM
Mechanically attached, standard flat insulation board with a water-resistant barrier incorporating in itself a means of drainage as a secondary weather barrier and drainage plane.

OPTIONS:
LCR - DM: Mechanically attached, standard flat insulation board with any code compliant water-resistant barrier and the ParexUSA drainage mat.

STANDARD CI SYSTEM
Adhesively attached, standard insulation board, using vertical ribbons of ParexUSA basecoat & adhesive over an approved substrate.
### SYSTEMS AND PRODUCTS CROSS REFERENCE GUIDE

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| Waterproof Basecoat      | ParexUSA WeatherDry |

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* ParexUSA products may be used with all brands
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1. PRODUCTS
ParexUSA has developed a wide range of products to meet the physical and performance conditions of most projects. For a more detailed description of these products, please review our published Product Data Sheets and Safety Data Sheets (SDS).

Basecoats & Adhesives

Cementitious
Uses: As basecoats over EPS. As masonry levelers, adhesives for adhering EPS to masonry, exterior grade gypsum sheathing and glass mat gypsum sheathing.
Cementitious-Acrylic Basecoat & Adhesive, pail products mixed with Type I or I-II Portland cement in a ratio of 1 part Basecoat & Adhesive to 1 part cement by weight.
Dry Basecoat & Adhesive, bag products, factory blended cementitious dry powder that only requires the addition of water.

Waterproof Basecoat
WeatherDry, pail product mixed with type I or I-II Portland cement in a ratio of 2 parts WeatherDry to 1 part cement by weight.
Uses: Waterproof basecoat designed to protect sloped surfaces of rigid insulation boards.

Adhesives Only
Sheathing Adhesive, pail product, adhesive for applying EPS to wood-based sheathings, exterior grade gypsum sheathing and glass mat gypsum sheathing.

ParexUSA Reinforcing Mesh
352 Adhesive Mesh, 4.5 oz., fiberglass, self-adhesive mesh. Uses: For complex architectural details, not for use on full walls.
355 Standard Mesh, 4.5 oz., alkali resistant glass fiber reinforcing mesh.
Uses: Embedded into basecoat for typical application requirements.
355.48 Long Standard, 4.5 oz., 48 in., alkali resistant glass fiber reinforcing mesh.
Uses: Embedded into basecoat for typical application requirements.
356 Detail Mesh, 4.5 oz., highly flexible reinforcing mesh.
Uses: For backwrapping and fabricating special shapes or contours, for double meshing corners.
358.10 Intermediate Impact Mesh, 12 oz., high tensile strength, glass fiber reinforcing mesh.
Uses: Embedded in primary layer of basecoat prior to additional mesh application to obtain medium impact level as defined by ASTM E2486.
358.14 High Impact Mesh, 15 oz., high tensile strength glass fiber mesh.
Uses: Embedded in primary layer of basecoat prior to additional 355 Standard Mesh application to obtain high impact protection as defined by ASTM E2486.
358.20 Ultra High Impact Mesh, 20 oz., ultra-high tensile strength glass fiber mesh.
Uses: Embedded in primary layer of basecoat prior to additional 355 Standard Mesh application to obtain ultra-high impact protection as defined by ASTM E2486.
360 Fast Window Mesh, 20 oz., A preformed mesh used to reinforce the corners of rough openings. It is ready to use and pre-cut for fast installation. It should be used in conjunction with Parex USA Weather Tech WRBs: WeatherSeal Spray & Roll-On, WeatherSeal Trowel-On and WeatherBlock Spray & Roll-On.

Primer

Primer, can be used over cementitious and non-cementitious basecoats prior to finish application. It improves the color consistency, trowelability and coverage of the finish. May be tinted.

Finishes

Acrylic Finish: 100% Acrylic co-polymer based, factory blended and integrally colored. They are applied over primed or unprimed basecoat to provide a durable, decorative wall coating.

Water-Resistant Barriers and Drainage Accessories

WeatherSeal Spray & Roll-On: 100% acrylic based, spray & roll-on water-resistant barrier membrane. Uses: Secondary water and air-resistant barrier in the WaterMaster CI System.

WeatherSeal Trowel-On: 100% acrylic based, water-resistant barrier membrane. Uses: Secondary water and air-resistant barrier in the WaterMaster CI System.

WeatherBlock: A 100% Acrylic co-polymer fast drying vapor retarder, elastomeric waterproof and air barrier coating which can be either rolled, brushed, or spray applied.

StuccoWrap: Secondary barrier material with engineered drainage channels, used with Mechanically Fastened CI System (WaterMaster LCR).

396 ParexUSA Sheathing Tape: Non-woven synthetic fiber tape to reinforce ParexUSA WeatherSeal Spray & Roll-On at sheathing board joints and rough openings. 500 ft. (152m) lengths in either 4 in. (10cm), 6 in. (15cm), or 9 in. (23cm) widths.

WeatherFlash: applied to exterior wall assemblies where it functions as part of an air and water resistive barrier system. WeatherFlash is an all-purpose, liquid applied flashing used in construction applications to bridge dissimilar materials and to create weather resistant, fully adhered pan membranes in window and door installations. Liquid Flashing can be applied over surfaces and substrates that have been prepared per the WeatherTech Guidelines. WeatherFlash bonds to most construction materials, such as aluminum, brick, concrete, wood, vinyl, exterior gypsum board, and various other construction substrates.

369 DrainEdge™: A perforated, spun bonded, polyolefin used at heads of system penetrations (windows, doors, etc.) to permit drainage without the use of track on noncombustible construction.

Insulation Board: Ensure that the insulation board used in the installation is listed for flame spread and smoke developed values, and conforms to ASTM C578 for Type I molded expanded polystyrene. Board should be aged a minimum of 6 weeks and be a maximum workable size of 2 ft. x 4 ft. (610mm x 119mm) with a minimum thickness of 1 in. (25.4mm) after rasping. To test the board, break a small piece in half and immediately smell. The board should not be used if there is a noticeable solvent odor.

Mechanical Fasteners: Attachment method for mechanically fastened CI Systems. Mechanical fasteners are not required for the WaterMaster LCR CI Systems. However, they are sometimes specified for added security. In some cases mechanical fasteners may be used for renovation work or where adhesive cannot be used.

Vented Track: Rigid exterior grade PVC plastic vented track designed to allow incidental moisture which may accumulate behind the system to exit. It may be used at foundation terminations in lieu of traditional backwrapping technique. Vented Track may not be used with Standard or WaterMaster CI Drainage Systems except at foundation terminations, without approval from the ParexUSA Technical Department.

Portland Cement: Use type I or I-II, fresh and free of lumps.

Water: Cool, clean potable water.

Mixing Equipment: Use a 1/2 in. (13mm) chuck size power drill with a 6-8 amp motor capable of turning at 400-500 rpm. The mixing paddle should be a steel dispersal mixer.

Tools Common to the Plastering Trades. Including, but not limited to: a hawk, scoop, stainless steel trowels, plastic floats, rasping boards, margin trowels, corner trowels, groove tools and notched trowels for adhesive application.

Other Tools: Utility knife, tape measure, paint rollers and tray (for primer), weight scale, extra buckets, electrical cords, EPS saw, drop cloths, masking tape, etc.

PRODUCT STORAGE

- Generally, store all ParexUSA products in a clean, dry environment, protected from sunlight. Protect all pail goods from freezing. Freezing can cause product damage. See product data sheets for specific storage instructions.
- Shelf Life: See product data sheets for specific shelf life information. Also see Technical Bulletin TB013, Expiration Date of ParexUSA Products.
- Store EPS and tracks flat. Standing on end could cause these materials to warp. Do Not store EPS in sunlight and adhere to all manufacturer’s recommendations.
- Store EPS away from sources of flame or high heat. Warning: EPS is combustible and can ignite and burn if exposed to fire of sufficient heat and intensity.
- Store ParexUSA reinforcing mesh in the shipping container in order to keep it clean and protected.
GENERAL INSTALLATION REQUIREMENTS
These requirements are essential to good Continuous Insulation (CI) System practice. Failure to follow these requirements could lead to problems with the installation or ultimately, to system failure. Follow the requirements of the Product Data Sheets for each ParexUSA product used.

Environmental Requirements
- ParexUSA products should only be used when the air temperature in which they are applied is at 40°F (4°C) or higher during application and drying/curing.
- Do not apply ParexUSA products to substrates which have a surface temperature of 40°F (4°C) or lower.

NOTE: Because ParexUSA Basecoats & Adhesives, Finishes and Coatings are water based acrylic products, it is essential that the above requirements be followed. Humidity, wind, cold, heat, rain, etc., can all affect workability and drying of the coatings. As conditions warrant, tenting and/or tarping with supplemental heat might be necessary to maintain these requirements.

The foam plastic insulation that is used in the ParexUSA CI Systems is expanded polystyrene board, and the producers of the polystyrene boards recommend a maximum service temperature of 167ºF (75ºC). At temperatures higher than this value, the boards begin to deform. The use of dark color finishes over the polystyrene boards should be avoided in order to prevent the occurrence of high temperatures on the surface of the insulation boards. For more information see the ParexUSA Technical Bulletin on using dark color finishes on CI Systems.

Substrate Requirements
Verify that the substrate:
- Is a type approved by ParexUSA.
- Is sound showing no signs of deterioration.
- Is correctly applied and oriented to the framing.
- Is correctly and tightly fastened.
- Is free of any crumbling or looseness of surface.
- Has no gaps or voids other than what is necessary for proper installation.
- Has no projections or planar irregularities greater than 1/4 in. (6mm) in a 4 ft. (1.2m) radius.
- Is dry and is clean of any foreign materials such as oil, dust, dirt, form release agents, paints, wax, water, frost, etc.
- Wood-based sheathings require a 1/8 in. (3mm) gap between adjacent panels.
- Wood based sheathings require fastening in accordance with the building code or project specification if the specification exceeds the code.
- Gypsum sheathings require fastening spaced not more than 8 in. (20cm) on center along framing members, and framing spaced not more than 16 in. (40cm) on center. For greater framing spacing, contact ParexUSA Technical Services. Closer fastener spacing may be required by project specification or code.

Application Coordination Requirements
- Ensure that the installation of the system is being coordinated with other trades on the project.
- Other trades are responsible for metal or plastic flashings as detailed by the design professional and must be installed properly along with other construction components such as windows and doors, louvers, doors, roof intersections, and deck headers.
- Make sure details needed prior to application of CI Systems are acceptable and in place.
- Provide appropriate protection/covering for adjacent construction materials that are likely to be soiled by the application process.
- Employ sufficient manpower to ensure a continuous coating application free of cold joints, scaffold staging shadows and texture variations.
- Have scaffolding and other necessary equipment in place prior to the installation.
- Have access to electricity for power tools.
- Have access to cool, clean water of drinking quality at the area where system materials will be mixed.
- Determine who will be responsible for installing the sealant.

Before Beginning the Installation
If there are any discrepancies with your initial inspection of the substrate, do not proceed with the application until all unsatisfactory conditions are corrected. The general contractor should be advised of all discrepancies so that appropriate action can be taken. Failure to advise the general contractor of unsatisfactory conditions before the application begins might be construed as acceptance, by the applicator, of the substrate for the purpose of installing the system. At this time, it may also be appropriate to once again review the contract documents to ensure that the installation will be consistent with what has been detailed and specified. Be sure to review critical detail areas of the project. It is certainly easier for all parties concerned if problems are addressed up front rather than when they present themselves in the installation process.

Evaluate the installation - The following are some critical details:

1. Window and door perimeters
2. Tops of walls (roof line)
3. Bottom of walls (grade or pavement)
4. Penetrations (scuppers, fixtures, outlets, signage, etc.)
5. Aesthetic features
6. Expansion joints
7. Abutments to Dissimilar Materials
8. Gable Roof/Wall Intersection
9. Flashing Locations
10. Roofing
11. Kick-out Flashing (flash turn-outs)
APPLICATION OF THE CI SYSTEM

The system should start 6 in. (15cm) above grade or 2 in. (5cm) above the pavement. Substrates allowed are masonry, brick, stucco, exterior gypsum sheathing, glass mat gypsum, cement board, plywood and OSB sheathing. The system is qualified for application to certain types of OSB (oriented strand board) sheathing only in areas shown in the ParexUSA Acceptable Substrates and Areas of Use Technical Bulletin.

NOTE: All WaterMaster systems require waterproofing of all openings prior to system application.

STEPS FOR WATERMASTER CI SYSTEMS OVER PAREXUSA WEATHERSEAL

This system is applied only over substrates listed in the ParexUSA Technical Bulletin “Acceptable Substrates and Areas of Use”. NOTE: Wood sheathings may require 2 coats of WeatherSeal Spray & Roll-On or Trowel-On. Rough openings are sealed with 396 Sheathing Tape embedded in WeatherSeal. The sheathing joints are sealed with ParexUSA 396 Sheathing Tape embedded in ParexUSA WeatherSeal followed by an application of ParexUSA WeatherSeal over all sheathing surfaces, joints and rough openings and allowed to dry 24 hours. Standard (flat) EPS board is then adhesively attached using vertical ribbons (parallel to the 2 ft. [61cm] dimension of the EPS board) of adhesive.

PRELIMINARY STEPS:

Inspect the sheathing: Inspect the sheathing application for correct fastener spacing and depth of fastener into the sheathing. Check for sheathing and framing flatness. Broken or weathered sheathing must be replaced. Gaps in sheathing greater than 1/4 in. (6mm) must be filled with any ParexUSA Cementitious Basecoat & Adhesive and allowed to fully dry.

Seal all rough openings as follows: Windows, doors, louvers, etc. MUST NOT BE INSTALLED at this point.

ROUGH OPENING TREATMENT

1. Cut Sheathing Joint tape in a length to wrap all the way into the rough opening and onto the sheathing face a minimum of 2 inches. Cut and embed as shown in (Fig 4.1).
2. Cut “bandages” to 4 in. (102mm) x 6 in. (152mm). Embed 396 Sheathing Tape into ParexUSA WeatherSeal and install diagonally at all corners as shown. Sheathing should not be visible at the corners of the rough opening (Fig 4.2).
   Note: Step 1 & 2 can be substituted with the use of 360 fast corners
3. Cut a pieces of Parex 396 sheathing tape the length of the sill, head and jambs. Embed sheathing tape into ParexUSA WeatherSeal and align so that it will overlap the corner pieces by at least 2 inches and protrude to the outside of the opening at least 2 inches onto the sheathing.
Weatherproof the Sheathing Joints and Corners:
Apply WeatherSeal in minimum 5 in. (127mm) wide bands centered over sheathing joints and immediately center and embed ParexUSA 396 Sheathing Tape into the wet WeatherSeal. A 4 or 6 in. (10 or 15mm) wide drywall knife works very well to adhere the 396 Sheathing Joint Tape to the wet WeatherSeal. All inside and outside corners shall be sealed in the same manner. (Fig 5.1).

ParexUSA Flashing Membrane may also be used for protection of the rough openings. Primer may be required on certain substrates.

More complete details for installing ParexUSA WeatherSeal can be found at ParexUSA family of brand websites:

- www.parex.com
- www.teifs.com
- www.elrey.com
- www.lahabrastucco.com
Seal the Head (Cap) Flashing of All Openings:
NOTE: Cap flashing is a part of self-flashing (flange-type) windows, doors, etc. so those items must be installed prior to the installation of the ParexUSA 369 DrainEdge and 356 Short Detail Mesh. Other types of commercial windows, doors and AC units may need to have metal cap flashing fabricated and installed above them to provide adequate protection. The final position of the object in the opening is critical and must be determined prior to the cap flashing installation. This is typically done by others but does affect the placement of your ParexUSA 369 DrainEdge and 356 Short Detail Mesh. Shop drawings, communication and coordination are necessary to accomplish this detail, as it will vary from job to job. (See ParexUSA CI Systems Details for options). Seal the top of the cap flashing with ParexUSA Sheathing Tape embedded in WeatherSeal Spray & Roll-On or ParexUSA Flashing Membrane. (Fig. 6.1).

ParexUSA WeatherSeal:
ParexUSA WeatherSeal is applied over all previously coated rough openings, joint treatments, corners and sheathing surfaces. Spray applications require back rolling using a 1-1/4 in. (31mm) nap roller and allowed to dry. ParexUSA WeatherSeal Trowel-On is troweled over all sheathing surfaces in accordance with the product data sheet. (Fig 6.2).

369 DrainEdge and 356 Short Detail Mesh At The Cap Flashing Of ALL Openings:
Install ParexUSA 369 DrainEdge 1/4 in. (6mm) beyond both ends of the head, and Detail Mesh (1 in. (25mm) beyond both ends of the head of windows, doors, and AC units) above head of cap flashing. The ParexUSA 369 DrainEdge Strip is installed first with the third row of holes from the bottom at the corner of the cap flashing. This should be attached with corrosion resistant staples. 356 Short Detail Mesh is then installed over the ParexUSA 369 DrainEdge with corrosion resistant staples (Fig 6.1).

For Non-combustible construction, one ribbon or adhesive is installed horizontally as shown in Figure 6.1.

Detail Mesh for Backwrapping:
The backwrap mesh is to be attached to the substrate by adhesive or corrosion resistant staples (Fig 6.3).

The preliminary steps are now complete. The remaining steps are to properly detail the heads of all opening, and then install the insulation layer. See Page 12 for more details.

EPS Board Installation:
The EPS board application can now begin. If any aesthetic grooves are to be cut in the EPS they should not line up with the EPS board joints.
INSTALLING THE INSULATION BOARD

Choosing the Right Adhesive
After the preliminary task of backwrapping or fastening track has been accomplished, you are now ready to adhere the EPS insulation board to the substrate. The adhesive should be selected depending upon the substrate. Table 8.1 below is a guide for matching adhesives with substrates.

Table 8.1: ATTACHMENT BY SUBSTRATE

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Starting and Stopping the System
At all system terminations, install 356 Detail Mesh for back-wrapping. When using 356 Detail Mesh, be sure to backwrap the mesh at least 2-1/2 in. (6cm) behind insulation board.

Applying EPS Insulation Board to Sheathing Substrates
On sheathing applications, the first course of insulation board usually must be halved in width to allow for a minimum 1 in. transition beyond the sill plate and the 12 in. (30cm) offset of the horizontal insulation and sheathing board joints (Fig 8.1). The offset of the vertical insulation and sheathing board joints typically should be no less than 8 in. (20cm). Remember, at no time should the vertical or horizontal joints in the sheathing line up with the insulation board joints. On masonry substrates these requirements do not apply.
Applying EPS Insulation to Masonry Substrates
EPS board must not bridge expansion joints in masonry or concrete substrates. Instead, an expansion sealant joint is created in the CI System over the substrate joints.

Adhesive Application Trowels
Sheathing Adhesive requires that these trowels be used with these products for optimum adhesive performance and coverages:

Trowel Size:
1/2 in. (12mm) notched trowel for WaterMaster CI Systems with any Cementitious Basecoat & Adhesive (Fig 9.1).
Minimum 5/8 in. (16mm) U-notched trowel for masonry, concrete and metal lath substrates with any Cementitious Basecoat & Adhesive (Fig 9.2).
3/16 in. (5mm) U-notched trowel for sheathing substrates with Sheathing Adhesive (Fig 9.3).
Minimum 5/16 in. (8 mm) notched trowel for sheathing substrates with any 121 Basecoat & Adhesive (Fig 9.4).

Applying Adhesive to the Back of the EPS Insulation Board
The first step is to ensure that the adhesive is compatible with the substrate. Using the correct sized notched trowel, the adhesive can now be applied to the insulation board.

The ribbons of adhesive must be made with a 1/2 x 1/2 x 2 in. (13 x 13 x 51mm) spacing U-notched trowel. The ribbons of adhesive must run vertically when positioned on the substrate (parallel to the 2 ft. [61cm] board dimension).
Apply the adhesive to the back-facing side of the insulation board so that when it is applied to the substrate, the notched trowel pattern runs consistently (Fig 9.5).
The notched pattern should cover the entire board from edge to edge. To ensure sufficient bonding and coverages of the adhesive, EPS board should be visible in between the notches of adhesive. Adhesive should only be applied to the back-facing side of the insulation board. Remove any adhesive from EPS board edges. Adhesive between board edges can cause cracking.

Installing the Insulation Board
Prior to installing the insulation board it is important to assess all terminations of the system and ensure that backwrapping, edge wrapping, track or seal tape is used in these locations.
Slide and push the insulation boards into place on the wall using caution not to dent or damage the board.
Insert insulation board (Fig 9.6) edges all the way into track or backwrap. Apply firm, even pressure to the entire insulation board once it is in place. A rasping board is a useful tool to press with even pressure without damaging the insulation board. Install the insulation board in a running bond pattern, staggering vertical joints in successive courses. Best practice would be no less than 8 in. (20cm) from the adjacent insulation board joints.
Abut boards tightly at joints to produce a flush, continuously even surface with minimum gaps (Fig 10.7). Scrape excess adhesive off the edges of the boards (Fig 10.8).

Fill any gaps larger than 3/32 in. (2mm) with slivers of insulation board (Fig 10.9) or a Low Expanding Polyurethane Spray Foam approved for use with CI Systems. Adhesive should not be applied to the slivers. Continue installing the EPS boards horizontally, staggering the boards and overlapping the substrate joints. Filling gaps with adhesive/basecoat will result in cracks in the lamina.

Offset insulation board joints 8 in. (20cm) or more from the corners of openings around doors, windows or other similar conditions (Fig 10.10). Plan the work so that the insulation board around the corner is cut in an “L” shape from a single piece (Fig 10.11). Insulation board joints should never align with opening corners. Leave a uniform 1/2 in. space between the edge of the EPS and the window, door, etc. when the system is terminated by backwrapping, so that backer rod and sealant can be installed later.

At all outside and inside corners always interlock or stagger the insulation board joints, board joints on the opposite end should be no less than 8 in. (20cm) from the corner (Fig 10.12). Plumb all outside corners by snapping a chalk line. Level the EPS board to the chalk line by rasping. Maintain a minimum thickness of 3/4 in. (19mm) of EPS. Remove all loose EPS particles from the wall surface.
PREPARING FOR THE BASECOAT APPLICATION

The adhesive must dry so that EPS board is secure on the wall before proceeding. Adhesive must dry in accordance with the product data sheet. Drying time may be shortened with ParexUSA Accel-Pak. In cool or damp weather, the adhesive may require longer to drying time.

Leveling the EPS

True wall surfaces by leveling EPS. Do not build up basecoat thickness to true walls. Level the entire surface of the EPS board with either a rasping board or power rasper (Fig 11.1).

Check the surface with a straight edge for high spots, leveling as necessary (Fig 11.2). Maintain a minimum thickness of 3/4 in. (19mm) of EPS. Thoroughly remove loose EPS particles from the surface of the insulation board.

Aesthetic Grooves or Reveals

Establish the locations of all aesthetic grooves or reveals, bands or other projections with a chalk line. The aesthetic grooves should not line up with the EPS board joints.

Aesthetic grooves or reveals can generally be cut with a router or hot knife. A minimum thickness of 3/4 in. (19mm) of insulation board must be maintained in back of the groove (Fig 11.3). The bottom surface of any horizontal groove must be sloped min. 1 in 2 pitch.

Attaching EPS Aesthetic Trim

The following ParexUSA adhesives can be used to attach foam to foam: any Cementitious Basecoat & Adhesive.

Small EPS aesthetic trim not more than 3 in. (7.6cm) thick by 12 in. (30cm) wide can now be laminated over installed insulation board (Fig 11.4), not exceeding the grand total thickness as allowed by the system specifier. Using either a 5/16 in. (8mm) or 1/2 in. (13mm) notched trowel, apply ParexUSA Adhesive to the back of the trim feature, as described earlier. Attach the trim piece to the face of the insulation board with firm and even pressure. In some cases it may be necessary to temporarily pin the trim into place with nails to give the adhesive time to set up. Remove temporary pinning after the adhesive has dried.
Larger EPS aesthetic trim should be attached directly to the substrate (Fig 12.5). Using the appropriate notched trowel for the adhesive specified, apply adhesive to the back-face of the trim feature as described earlier. Attach the trim piece directly to the substrate with firm and even pressure. If necessary, corrosion-resistant mechanical fasteners may be used in conjunction with the appropriate ParexUSA Adhesive to affix the feature temporarily or permanently (Please contact ParexUSA Technical Services for recommendations). Allow the adhesive to fully dry a minimum of 24 hours, or longer depending on conditions, before rasping and basecoating aesthetic trim features.

NOTE: The slope on the aesthetic foam trim features, bands, cornices and window sills needs to have a 6/12 slope.

**Backwrapping Mesh**
First determine the starting point on the wall. Then snap a straight, level chalk line. To begin backwrapping, install ParexUSA 9-1/4 in. (23.5cm) wide 356 Detail Mesh lengthwise along chalk line so that a minimum of 2-1/2 in. (6.5cm) of the mesh will be behind the insulation board. The detail mesh can be installed by either using ParexUSA Adhesives, or by attaching the mesh onto sheathing substrates with corrosion resistant staples or nails in a length that does not penetrate through the sheathing. If ParexUSA Adhesive is used to attach the mesh to the substrate, special care should be taken to ensure that the exposed ends of the backwrapping mesh do not become covered with adhesive materials. (Fig 12.6) Adhesive on the exposed ends will prevent proper embedding of the mesh at the board edge and face when the backwrapping procedure is completed later.

**Meshing Corners**
The inside and outside corners should be double-wrapped with reinforcing mesh. This can be done using one of two different methods:

1. Apply a primary layer of basecoat wide enough to accommodate ParexUSA 356 Short Detail Mesh. Embed the mesh into the fresh basecoat, then apply the 355 Standard Mesh around the corner so there is a double layer of mesh (Fig 12.7).

2. Another way to double mesh corners is to wrap and embed mesh in basecoat around the corner from one side to the other side. Next duplicate this process coming from the other side. The double mesh should extend at least 8 in. (20cm) from the corner in both directions. (Fig 12.8).

Inside and outside corners can be meshed in a similar manner. A corner trowel should be used to smooth out the corner at its edge, forming a clean, straight line. If necessary, apply additional basecoat materials to ensure that the mesh is not visible. A slight pattern of the mesh is acceptable, due to shrinkage of the cementitious basecoat upon drying.
Meshing Aesthetic Grooves or Reveals
The mesh-reinforced basecoat must be continuous through these recessed features. To mesh the groove or reveal, apply a primary layer of basecoat into the groove and over an area wide enough to embed the width of the detail mesh on either side (Fig 13.9).

Begin embedding the ParexUSA 356 Detail Mesh into the groove using a tool fabricated in the profile of the feature (Fig 13.10). Do not cut the mesh during this process.

With a trowel, finish embedding the detail mesh on the sides of the groove (Fig 13.11). If the mesh is still visible, apply additional basecoat. A slight pattern of the mesh is acceptable, due to shrinkage of the cementitious basecoat upon drying.

Meshing Aesthetic Trim
As a general rule, adhesives used in attaching aesthetic trim should be allowed to dry a minimum of 24 hours or longer, depending on conditions, before applying basecoat.

Aesthetic trim features are prepared with a basecoat similar to the rest of the wall system. Basecoat and embedded mesh should not only be applied to the feature, but should also lap not less than 2-1/2 in. (6.5cm) onto the adjacent wall plane. Completely embed mesh in the fresh basecoat. Apply additional basecoat as necessary to completely cover the mesh.

Like aesthetic grooves and reveals, the area adjacent to the feature is overlapped with mesh reinforced basecoat during the standard application procedure.

Butterfly Reinforcements
Apply butterfly corner reinforcing mesh diagonally at the corners of all openings such as doors, windows, recessed features, etc. Butterfly mesh is cut from 356 Detail Mesh to a length of 12 in. (30cm). Apply butterfly mesh at corners of bands around openings (Fig 13.12). The dimensions of the butterfly mesh may be reduced to fit the bands. The continuous wall mesh is applied either under or over butterfly mesh.
APPLYING BASECOATS

To begin this step, cut reinforcing mesh to workable lengths.

Standard Mesh and Basecoat Application Procedure

All ParexUSA Basecoats are applied to the face of the insulation board in the same manner. Using a stainless steel trowel, apply an even layer of basecoat approximately 1/16 in. to 3/32 in. (1.6mm to 2mm) thick onto the surface of the insulation board in an area slightly larger than the 38 in. (1m) width of the reinforcing mesh.

Immediately embed the reinforcing mesh into the fresh basecoat, trowelling it from the center and outward to its edges, cutting off any accumulated excess basecoat (Fig 14.1). Mesh can be applied vertically or horizontally. This method keeps the mesh laying flat, ensuring consistent embedment into the basecoat (Figure 14.2). Additional basecoat material may be added to the surface of the fresh basecoat in order to ensure proper embedment of the mesh.

After drying the color of the reinforcing mesh should not be visible at the surface of the Basecoat & Adhesive material. A slight pattern of the mesh is acceptable due to shrinkage of the cementitious basecoat upon drying. In the event that any a portion of the mesh is still visible after the basecoat materials has dried, apply a second skim coat to those areas.

The installation progresses by applying basecoat similarly in areas adjacent to the previous application. Take care to overlap reinforcing mesh a minimum of 2-1/2 in. (6.5cm) at all meeting ends and edges as the application progresses. To avoid a buildup of basecoat that could be noticeable in the finished application, mesh end overlaps can be held 8 in. (20cm) or more from corners.

Final Appearance of Basecoat Application

The basecoat application should be smooth, approximately 1/16 in. (1.6mm) thick, and free of trowel lines with no visible color signs of the reinforcing mesh. Allow a minimum drying time of 24 hours (or in accordance with Product Data Sheet) or longer depending on conditions, before applying additional ParexUSA coatings. Drying time may be shortened with ParexUSA Accel-Pak. This allows the basecoat to form a positive bond.
IMPACT MESH APPLICATION

In areas requiring heavy duty impact protection, ParexUSA offers two options: 358.20 Ultra High Impact Mesh, which is 20 oz. mesh, and 358.14 High Impact Mesh which is 15 oz. mesh. Requirements are generally outlined in the job's specification and are shown on the drawings.

At areas specified for impact protection, apply ParexUSA basecoat approximately 3/32 in. (2mm) thick to the insulation board. Immediately embed ParexUSA heavy duty mesh into the wet basecoat.

Edges and ends of heavy duty mesh must tightly abut one another. Do not overlap heavy duty mesh.

Either allow the basecoat embedding the heavy duty mesh to dry completely or immediately embed standard mesh over it. Unless standard mesh is immediately applied, cover heavy duty mesh completely with basecoat, allow a minimum of 24 hours to pass, or longer depending on conditions, prior to applying additional ParexUSA coatings. This allows the first layer of basecoat to form a positive bond.

Examine the hardened first layer of basecoat for projections of loose strands of reinforcing mesh. Correct as necessary to produce a flat working surface.

The next step is to apply a second layer of basecoat and to embed ParexUSA 355 Standard Mesh.

The 355 Standard Mesh joints must be offset a minimum of 6 in. (15cm) from the joints of the previously installed heavy duty mesh. Standard and heavy duty mesh ends and edges should never align.

Intermediate Impact Resistance

For intermediate impact resistance, ParexUSA 358.10 Intermediate Impact Mesh is applied in the same manner as high impact applications, followed by an application of 355 Standard Mesh embedded in basecoat.

As an alternative, when specified, ParexUSA 358.10 Intermediate Impact Mesh can be embedded into wet basecoat with edges and ends tightly abutted. Immediately following this procedure, ParexUSA 356 Short Detail Mesh strips are centered over the butted ends and edges of the 358.10 Intermediate Reinforcing Mesh. Additional basecoat is applied to feather out the mesh joints and to completely embed the mesh to produce a flat, uniform surface.

Intermediate mesh may also be overlapped a minimum of 2-1/2 inches, however care must be taken to avoid a bump in the basecoat at this termination and the basecoat must be feathered onto either side.
FINISH APPLICATION

Before the application of the finish, the basecoat must be dry and have cured a minimum of 24 hours or longer as required by conditions or in accordance with the product data sheet. Examine the cured basecoat for any irregularities. Correct these irregularities to produce a flat surface. Review environmental and application coordination sections of the General Requirements. Work on the shaded side of the building whenever possible.

Primer or Sanded Primer

Primer is optional, except if specified, when applying finishes to cementitious basecoats. Primer is applied to minimize cementitious basecoat water absorption and the risk of efflorescence, and to provide consistent color under the finish. It also eases the trowelability floating characteristics of the finish, and will improve the coverage of the finish.

- ParexUSA Variance VariPrime Sanded is required for Cerastone, Spraystone and Tuffstone Granite Finishes.

Mixing and Applying Primer

Mix the primer thoroughly with the appropriate mixer and adjust consistency with up to 2 gal (3.8 L) of cool, clean potable water for ease of application. Apply the primer by either rolling or spraying with suitable equipment in a continuous coat (Figs 16.1). The primer does not have to look like a professional paint job, but it should cover the basecoat. When cutting-in with a brush around edges of the system do not allow a buildup of primer. If a buildup is present it will produce a visible and unsightly difference in the finish applied over it.

Cerastone, Spraystone and Tuffstone Granite finishes: Sanded Primer is required and must be uniform, with no variation in appearance from basecoat showing through. Sanded Primer must be specifically tinted for Cerastone, Spraystone and Tuffstone Granite colors.

ParexUSA Finishes

ParexUSA offers a variety of different finishes in a wide range of colors that can accommodate a variety of texturing techniques. Each finish is acrylic polymer based, pre-mixed, and tinted for the requirements of any project.

- Swirl Finishes are applied with a stainless steel trowel and textured with a hard plastic float.
- ParexUSA Variable Texture Finish is a high-build product that can be applied using various application techniques.
- ParexUSA Sand Finishes are applied using a stainless steel trowel and textured with a stainless steel trowel or a plastic float.
- The Sand Fine Finish is less forgiving on irregular substrates. Use extra care on the basecoat to control consistency of the texture.
- Using the appropriate spray equipment and techniques, all ParexUSA acrylic finishes can be sprayed to achieve a wide variety of textures.

- The ParexUSA Sand Smooth Finish cannot generally be floated. Texture will be “as-trowelled”. For the smoothest application, apply in two tight coats. Allow first coat to dry enough that it will not be disturbed during application of the second coat. When second coat is partially dry, trowel to desired smoothness. Light, consistent misting with water during smoothing will increase smoothness. Variations in color tint and smoothness should be expected.
Mixing ParexUSA Acrylic Finishes
Stir to obtain a homogenous consistency using a heavy duty 1/2 in. (13mm) drill with a rust free mixer at 400-500 RPM (Fig 17.2). Avoid air entrapment.
To adjust workability, small amounts of cool, clean, potable water may be added as necessary. Do not exceed the amount of water recommended on the product data sheet. If water is added be sure that the same amount is added to each subsequent pail used. This ensures color and texture consistency.

Use single batch numbers of finish within a wall area defined by corners. Batch numbers are marked on the pail. If changing batches within a wall is unavoidable, then intermix batches to ensure consistent product. (Fig 17.3).

Assessing the Finish Application
In assessing the finish application, keep in mind that the material must be applied continuously for best results. When possible, plan the day’s work to best take advantage of terminations in the wall plane. For example: work between columns, aesthetic joints, expansion joints, corners, etc. For larger areas sufficient manpower must be assembled to ensure an application free of cold joints and staging lines (Fig 17.4).
Direct sunlight, wind, temperature and humidity can all have an effect on the workability and drying time of ParexUSA finishes. When possible, work the shady side of the building or tarp the scaffolding.

Fundamentals of Successfully Applying Finish
- Get samples approved and signed by the customer before the finish is made.
- Box finish from different batches.
- Run one batch of finish from corner to corner.
- Avoid application in direct sunlight.
- Always work to a wet edge.
- Have sufficient manpower to work a job.
- Stop work at a termination point.
Applying ParexUSA Finishes
Use the same tools and techniques to apply and texture the finish as used for the approved samples.
Apply ParexUSA finishes with a clean stainless steel trowel (Fig 18.5). The thickness of the finish application should equal the size of the product's aggregate. Variable Texture Finish can be applied up to 1/4 in. (6mm) thick at thickest part of a texture pattern, but its average thickness is limited to 1/8 in. (3mm) maximum.

Do not apply finishes on or in areas to receive sealant.
To ensure that the application remains consistent, a “wet edge” must be maintained at all times between termination breaks in the wall area (Fig 18.6).

Texturing Finish
ParexUSA Swirl Finishes can be textured using a hard plastic float in a uniform circular or figure eight motion (Fig 18.7). To ensure consistency in the application, all applicators should use the same type of tool and motion to float. During texturing, frequently remove any buildup of finish on the plastic float. For best results, two passes with the plastic float are recommended. Warning: Do not allow water on the float or wall while texturing. The additional water from the float may result in a visible color difference when the finish application has dried.

ParexUSA Variable Texture Finish can be applied and textured much like other plaster type materials. Using traditional plastering methods use Variable Texture to create skip trowel or stipple effects. Remember: Variable Finish should not exceed 1/4 in. (6mm) at its thickest point and should average no more than 1/8 in. (3mm) thick.

ParexUSA Sand Finishes are used to achieve a relatively uniform texture. Apply, then texture these finishes with a stainless steel trowel or hard plastic float using the same guidelines mentioned for Swirl Finishes. See the Product Data Sheet for more information.
PROTECTING THE SYSTEM AFTER INSTALLATION

- Plan and have ready for immediate use any protective measures required.
- Immediately after installation protect the ParexUSA System from weather and other damage until all sealants and flashings have been installed.
- After each application of the basecoat & adhesives and finishes, the ambient air temperature must remain at 40°F (4°C) or higher for a minimum of 24 hours, or until the coatings are completely dry, which may take several days in high humidity and/or cool weather.

Although it may not be outwardly apparent, freshly applied coatings that seem hard and dry on the surface often require protective measures to ensure their proper cure through their entire thickness. Take protective measures, especially if freezing temperatures, rain, snow or other damaging weather conditions are likely.

Temperatures below 40°F (4°C) can slow down or stop the film formation of the acrylic polymers. Damage from cold conditions often remains undetectable in the short term, but shows up much later as the coatings crack, become crumbly, or delaminate.

Like excessive cold, precipitation can affect the proper curing of coatings, but its results can be dramatically fast. A sudden downpour can wash fresh uncured coatings directly off a wall.

As circumstances may dictate, work according to the weather or provide appropriate sheltering, such as tenting and/or tarping. To maintain proper curing temperature, supplemental means of heating the temporary shelter may have to be used.

Flashings and Sealants

CI Systems, like other weather-protective wall materials, rely on flashings and sealants to prevent moisture entry behind the materials. Moisture behind the system can lead to damage to the interior of the wall. On moisture sensitive substrates, moisture can cause delamination of the system or loss of substrate attachment.

More About Sealants

Sealants, provide two vital functions:

1. They effectively seal joints between abutting materials against the weather; and
2. They absorb thermal expansion and contraction. In general, sealant joints are constructed similar to (Fig 20.1). ParexUSA requires the surface of the system which will receive the sealant to be either mesh-reinforced basecoat or track. Do not return finish into the joints or other areas to receive sealant. Sealants are applied in strict conformance with the sealant manufacturer’s recommendation.

Because of the wide variety of surface materials and conditions, check with the sealant manufacturer to ensure compatibility of the sealants to the surface(s) to which they will be applied. Special surface preparation or primers may be necessary. NOTE: ParexUSA Basecoats and Finishes must be thoroughly dry before sealants can be applied. ParexUSA Cementitious Basecoats require a minimum drying time of three days and longer during conditions of cool temperatures or high humidity; ParexUSA 100% Acrylic Basecoat and Finishes may require further drying time.
STEPS FOR MECHANICALLY FASTENED CI SYSTEMS FOR LIGHT COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION

NOTE: All WaterMaster LCR systems require waterproofing of all openings prior to system application and 1-1/2 in. (38mm) minimum EPS thickness.

INSTALLING VENTED TRACK

Vented track provides a means for incidental moisture to escape at the bottom of the system. Install vented track along a level or plumb base line approximately 6 in. (152mm) above grade or 2 in. (51mm) above pavement. Install above flashings and at expansion joints. Attach the track to the substrate at 10-12 in. (254-305mm) intervals along its length and insert splices at all track joints (Fig 21.1). On Mechanically Fastened CI SYSTEMS installation of the Water-Resistive Barrier must lap into the track.

On sheathing substrates, fasten the track through the sheathing and into the framing. Use corrosion resistant screws, nails or masonry anchors as appropriate for the substrate. Bottom of vented track shall be not less than 1 in. (25mm) below bottom of wall framing (Fig 21.2).

At this point in the construction, sheathing must be on the building. WINDOWS AND DOORS MUST NOT BE IN PLACE. Vented track should be installed at the bottom termination point.

The next step is to properly wrap all rough openings with ParexUSA Flashing Membrane or StuccoWrap® FlexWrap™ or Reinforced ParexUSA WeatherSeal. Closely follow the instructions below:

ParexUSA recommends an adhesion test of the Flashing Membrane on the substrates. If adhesion to substrate is found to be marginal, a primer shall be used to ensure optimal adhesion. Metal surfaces may need to be solvent wiped or abraded to achieve good adhesion. The recommended primers used with 365 Flashing Membrane are the Protecto Wrap No. 6000 Water-Based Primer or the Protecto-Tak Spray Adhesive.

1. Installing the Corrugated Water-Resistive Barrier Under the Sill: Cut to 12 in. (305mm) and approximately 2 in. (610mm) wider than window and staple into place at the bottom of the rough opening (Fig 21.3).

2. Installing Membrane "Bandages": Cut “bandages” to 4 in. (102mm) x 6 in. (152mm). Peel protective backer from the membrane and install diagonally at sill corners as shown. Sheathing or Corrugated Water-Resistive Barrier should not be visible at the corners of the rough opening (Fig 21.4). This step can be skipped if a “T” strip of ParexUSA 365 Flashing Membrane is applied in the corner and over the Corrugated Water-Resistive Barrier.

3. Cutting Flashing Membrane: Cut a piece of 365 Flashing Membrane 8 in. (203mm) longer than the rough opening width. Make two small cuts 2 in. (51mm) long through the membrane.

4. Folding Flashing Membrane: Fold membrane to conform with rough opening. Peel protective backer from membrane to expose adhesive (Fig 21.5).

5. Installing the Flashing Membrane: Install the “self sticking” membrane at the rough opening. Membrane should lap over the previously installed “bandages” and Corrugated Water-Resistive Barrier (Fig 21.6).
6. **Cutting Water-Resistive Barrier for Jambs:** Cut Water-Resistive Barrier to fit rough opening jamb (Fig 22.7).

7. **Installing Water-Resistive Barrier at Jambs:** Fold Water-Resistive Barrier into rough opening. Bottom leg must overlap first layer. Do not staple immediately below the sill/jamb corners (Fig 22.8).

8. **Installing the Window:** After the strips of Water-Resistive Barrier have been installed at the sill and jambs as shown, the window can be installed (Fig 22.9).

9. **Metal Flashing Profile:** The flashing above the window should be fabricated in the profile shown. Flashing material should be corrosion resistant and compatible with other construction materials (Fig 22.10). The length of the cap flashing must be at least as long as the top of the window and may be up to 1/2 in. (13mm) longer at each end when installed (not mandatory).

**NOTE:** Head flashing is typically the responsibility of the window/door installer not the CI System installer unless that is clearly indicated in contract documents.
10. Installation of Metal Flashing: VERY IMPORTANT!! This head cap flashing must go UNDER the Water-Resistive Barrier, NOT ON TOP OF IT. If nailing flange-type (self-flashing) windows are installed, the head flange MUST GO UNDER the Water-Resistive Barrier as well.

11. Installation of Track over Heads (ONLY ALLOWED ON COMBUSTIBLE CONSTRUCTION - CONTACT TECHNICAL SERVICES TO DETERMINE IF THIS IS APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION): Vented track is cut to extend 1/2 in. (13mm) past either end of the head of door or window and installed with its vertical leg BEHIND the StuccoWrap and 1/4 in. (6mm) to 3/8 in. (10mm) above the metal head flashing (or head of self-flashing windows) to allow drainage space. Add Flashing Membrane “bandages” at both corners. (Fig. 22.11)

INSTALLING WATER-RESISTIVE BARRIER
Water-Resistive Barrier shall be free from holes or breaks other than those created by fasteners over sheathing. Apply StuccoWrap or approved equal over sheathing at all areas to receive the WaterMaster LCR system, or code compliant water-resistant barrier for LCR- DM Systems in accordance with manufacturer’s installation instructions. Lap Water-Resistive Barrier over the back leg of the vented track at the bottom and at vertical edges of the system.

1. Install rolls horizontally in a shingle fashion working from bottom to top. Each succeeding course should overlap the previous course 2 in. (51mm) minimum or in accordance with manufacturer’s instructions. ParexUSA suggests marking the location of the sheathing board joints on the Water-Resistive Barrier as you proceed up the wall. These markings can be used as a reference to prevent the alignment of the insulation board joints and the sheathing board joints. NOTE: The strips of Water-Resistive Barrier previously installed at the sill and jambs overlap the Water-Resistive Barrier below the sill for positive drainage (Fig 23.1).

2. Continue to lap each succeeding course as illustrated for positive drainage. Where vertical splices occur, lap the Water-Resistive Barrier a minimum of 6 in. (152mm). Vertical splices in the building paper should not occur within 2 in. (610mm) of window jambs. Offset vertical splices in succeeding courses by a minimum of 2 in. (610mm). NOTE: The succeeding courses lap over the remainder of the Water-Resistive Barrier jamb strips and the metal flashing at the head. Apply sealant at penetrations of the Water-Resistive Barrier (Other than those made by fasteners) (Fig 23.2).

NOTE: The steps illustrated here show how to effectively install rough opening wrapping and the window and door prior to the installation of the Water-Resistive Barrier on the main structure. If the building sequence is such that the structure can be covered with the Water-Resistive Barrier first, follow the manufacturer’s instructions for the proper sequencing and procedure to install their products at rough openings. The important fact is that the proper installation sequence is followed by all trades involved so the window or door, once installed, acts like a roof shingle and proper lapping of all three components will always shed water to the exterior naturally.
INSTALLING PAREXUSA DETAIL MESH

Detail Mesh for Backwrapping: Mechanically Fastened CI Systems terminations that will not be done with track should now have ParexUSA 356 Short Detail Mesh and 369 DrainEdge stapled to the substrate at those areas (jambs, sills, soffits, etc). See Commercial Drainage Installation Section.

NOTE: The EPS application can now begin. The ParexUSA Mechanically Fastened CI Systems are done with standard (flat) EPS board and this system requires mechanical fastening.

When mechanical fasteners are used, ParexUSA requires using EPS board that is at least 1-1/2 in. (38mm) thick to ensure proper negative wind-load resistance. Use only fasteners approved by the fastener manufacturer for use with EPS applications, follow their fastening pattern (Fig 24.3) as a minimum (or the pattern specified by a design professional) and do not overdrive the fasteners.

The rules for insulation board installation with mechanical fasteners are the same as for adhesive application. (Stagger vertical joints, don’t line up EPS board joints with sheathing joints, etc.) Therefore, refer to those steps described and shown with the Standard CI Systems, Mechanically Fastened CI Systems, and Commercial Drainage CI Systems, beginning on page 4 and continuing through the finish and sealant application on page 14. If aesthetic grooves are planned for a mechanically attached project, plan ahead for fastener placement so they don’t interfere with cutting accent grooves. Also, when basecoating mechanically attached projects, the fastener heads must be pre-spotted with basecoat prior to the mesh and basecoat application.

Basecoat Application over Track

Where ends of tracks meet, apply rectangular patches of mesh approximately 6 in. by 9 in. (15cm by 22cm) long, entered on the track joint, to provide a double layer of mesh at these locations (Fig 24.4).

Ensure that both the reinforcing mesh and the basecoat overlap the entire perforated flange of track used in the installation. This effectively closes off the insulation board edge, forming an aesthetically pleasing termination that protects the system from moisture penetration.

Warning: Failure to apply the reinforced basecoat as outlined above could cause cracking and/or moisture penetration at these locations.