

# Benefits of Merlex Stucco Water Block™ Handy-Paks: Lifetime water repellency, minimal efflorescence, simplified inventories.

Recently, several stucco manufacturers have introduced water repellent stucco which includes active silicone ingredients pre-blended in the bag. These products have several benefits:

- **Water repellency for the life of the stucco.**

- **The simplicity of a one-component product.**

As would be expected, these sophisticated stucco products are approximately double the price of conventional stucco, and have several other drawbacks:

- **Very difficult to mix and handle.**
- **Increase of dealer inventory requirements.**

The blended silicones repel mix water actively, making it difficult to achieve a smooth, fully homogeneous mix.

**The Handy-Pak approach.** Merlex took a different approach in creating a water repellent stucco. The applicator simply adds a convenient 1 lb. Water Block Handy-Pak to each bag of conventional Merlex stucco. The sealed plastic bags contain silicone ingredients equivalent to those found in pre-blended water repellent bagged stuccos, but offer many advantages to the applicator and stucco dealer.

The mixing problem is solved by starting the mix with Merlex stucco only, and then adding the Handy-Paks needed and final stucco and mix water. The result is fast, easy mixing and smooth handling identical to standard stuccos.

Second, the stucco dealer does not need to stock two separate

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*Waterproofing with traditional quality, today's technology.*



## MERLEX STUCCO, INC.

2911 Orange-Olive Road  
Orange, California 92865  
Phone (714) 637-1700  
Fax (714) 637-4865

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inventories of conventional and water repellent stuccos. Any Merlex stucco can be made water repellent with the addition of a 1 lb. Handy-Pak for each bag of stucco used.

Third, the Handy-Pak approach eliminates waste and costs less than pre-blended stuccos. The unused excess stucco base can be returned to regular inventory.

In summary, the benefits of the Merlex approach to water repellent stucco include:

- **Water repellency for the life of the stucco.**

- **Simplified inventory requirements for dealers.**

- **Easy mixing and handling.**

- **Overall lower cost of materials and application than pre-blended stucco.**

**Additional benefits.** Merlex has observed a number of other benefits in the performance of our Stucco with Water Block.

**Cuts efflorescence.** The same chemical action within the portland cement matrix which promotes positive drying action also helps minimize efflorescence. This can make the difference between an acceptable stucco finish and a rejected job.

**Minimizes freeze-thaw damage.** The silicones in Merlex Stucco with Water Block minimize damage from freeze-thaw cycles. This can be especially valuable if a project is just completed at the end of the construction season in cooler climates.

**Minimizes staining.** Again, if a moist period is encountered unexpectedly after stucco application, Water Block's silicones help the stucco resist staining.

**No other sealers needed.**

Because the active water repelling ingredients are distributed through-



Each 1 lb. Water Block Handy-Pak, when added to a 90 lb. bag of Merlex Stucco, yields a true lifetime water repellent stucco.

out the Merlex Stucco, no other water sealers are necessary after curing or after years of life. For this same reason, the internal water repellency is not degraded by ultraviolet light.

**Total performance.** Overall, the addition of Water Block Handy-Paks to Merlex Stucco results in a product which gives better total performance, including:

- **Complete drying.**
- **Protection against staining and surface moisture damage.**
- **Minimal efflorescence.**
- **Resistance to freeze-thaw cycle damage.**
- **No sealers needed.**

Merlex Stucco and Water Block Handy-Paks are available from Merlex Stucco dealers.