



**PRODUCT BROCHURE**

# **Terraco Textured Coatings & EIFS/ETICS Render Systems**

A ready-mixed acrylic/silicone textured render, applied over a mesh-reinforced basecoat, that forms the weather skin and the finish of an external insulation and finish system (EIFS/ETICS) built on a separate EPS or mineral-wool insulation board.

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| DOCUMENT             | ISSUED     | PRODUCT          | STATUS         |
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## OVERVIEW

Terraco Textured Coatings are the reinforced, weatherproof outer skin of an external insulation and finish system (EIFS/ETICS): a glass-fibre-mesh-reinforced basecoat over an insulation board, closed with a ready-mixed acrylic/silicone textured topcoat in 50 standard colours and grain sizes from 0.8 to 3 mm. Technopol SA is the exclusive South African distributor of the Terraco chemistry range and also manufactures its own vertically integrated PolyClad ETICS on its own LiteCel EPS board. The render is the finish and the weather barrier. It carries no thermal duty: every R-value in the wall belongs to the insulation board behind it.

An EIFS/ETICS wall is built outward from the structure in layers. An insulation board - Technopol LiteCel EPS (FRCel fire-retardant, or graphite-enhanced GreyCel) or a mineral-wool slab - is bonded to masonry, timber or a sheathed light-steel frame with a cementitious/dispersion adhesive and mechanically dowelled. Both are required; neither replaces the other. A reinforced basecoat (Styrobond DP, or Technopol's Acrylic Plaster on PolyClad) goes on over it, and an alkali-resistant glass-fibre mesh (Terramesh) is fully embedded in that basecoat while it is wet, with 100 mm laps and a diagonal patch at every opening corner. A penetrating primer follows, then the decorative topcoat: Terracoat Sil (Excel alpine/scratch, Granule, Granule Filled or Sahara) or Gravitex. The topcoat is trowel-applied; the Granule grades can also be sprayed.

Boards are 1200 x 600 mm, 50 or 60 mm thick, or thicker to reach the R-value the wall has to deliver. Terracoat Sil is supplied in 25 kg pails, has a 12-month shelf life in the unopened pail, dries in 3 to 4 hours and covers about 12.5 m<sup>2</sup> per pail at the 2.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup> take-off rate.

There are three lines, and they are specified separately - each has its own board, its own fire classification and its own certificates, and none of them carry across to another line:

- Terraco EIFS Alpha - EPS core, the Terraco chemistry over Technopol LiteCel FRCel board.
- Terraco EIFS Perma - mineral-wool core; this is the non-combustible-core option.
- PolyClad ETICS - Technopol's own system: LiteCel EPS plus Technopol Acrylic Plaster (graded fines and Portland cement with a liquid polymer, mixed 4:1 by weight), base coat plus final render coat to a total of 3 to 4 mm.

## KEY FACTS

| PROPERTY                                    | VALUE                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Product type                                | <b>Ready-mixed acrylic/silicone resin-bound textured render (Terracoat Sil). It is the finish and the weather skin of an EIFS/ETICS wall, not an insulant.</b>               |
| Finish grades and grain size                | <b>Excel 1 / 1.5 / 2 / 3 mm; Granule 0.8 / 1 / 1.5 / 2 mm; Granule Filled 1.5 mm; Sahara 1 / 1.5 / 2 mm - 0.8 to 3 mm grain, 50 standard colours</b>                         |
| Thermal conductivity / R / U of the coating | <b>None. The render is a few millimetres of acrylic and contributes no useful thermal resistance. All lambda, R and U belong to the EPS or mineral-wool board behind it.</b> |
| Adhesion (pull-off bond strength)           | <b>&gt;2.0 N/mm<sup>2</sup></b>                                                                                                                                              |
| Water behaviour                             | <b>Vapour-permeable, Sd &lt;0.10 m; low liquid-water uptake, W24 &lt;0.15 kg/m<sup>2</sup>.h<sup>0.5</sup></b>                                                               |

| PROPERTY                                  | VALUE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Specific gravity (wet coating)            | <b>1.70 (Excel); 1.65 (Granule, Granule Filled, Sahara). This is the wet-coating value, not an insulation density.</b> <sup>°</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Coverage                                  | <b>1.5 to 4.5 kg/m<sup>2</sup> depending on grade. Technopol takes off at 2.0 kg/m<sup>2</sup>, which is about 12.5 m<sup>2</sup> from a 25 kg pail.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Reinforcing mesh (Terramesh Standard)     | <b>Alkali-resistant glass fibre; 160 g/m<sup>2</sup>; 4 x 4 mm mesh; 1500 N/50 mm tensile along both warp and weft; 1 m x 50 m roll; minimum 100 mm lap. It controls cracking and impact - it is not structural reinforcement and carries no load.</b> <sup>°</sup>                                                                                                                                |
| Render thickness                          | <b>Terraco EIFS: Styrobond DP basecoat at about 5 mm, plus a topcoat whose thickness is set by its grain (0.8 to 3 mm). PolyClad ETICS: base coat plus final render coat, 3 to 4 mm in total.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Fixing of the insulation board            | <b>Adhesive plus about 5 mechanical dowels per m<sup>2</sup>. Both are required - the adhesive bonds and levels the board, the dowels are the wind-load path.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Insulation board                          | <b>Technopol LiteCel EPS (FRCel or GreyCel), 1200 x 600 mm, 50 or 60 mm or thicker to reach the R-value target. Board lambda 0.033 to 0.045 W/m.K across the 12-30 kg/m<sup>3</sup> grades. GreyCel graphite EPS insulates about 20% better at equal thickness.</b> <sup>°</sup>                                                                                                                   |
| Reaction to fire of the EPS board         | <b>B-s1,d0 to SANS 53501-1, valid to 4 August 2028. Scope: the tested specimen was a bare, unfaced 60 mm FRCel 20DV board. Reaction to fire describes how a material contributes to a fire; it is not a fire-resistance rating and gives no minutes.</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| Fire resistance of an EPS-and-render wall | <b>The render adds no minutes and no EPS-cored rendered wall in this range carries a fire-resistance rating. Where the wall must hold a rating, that rating is achieved by the wall behind the insulation, tested to SANS 10177-2.</b>                                                                                                                                                             |
| Facade fire spread (EPS system)           | <b>The Terraco EIFS Alpha build-up was tested at large scale to SANS/BS 8414-2 by FIRELAB (FTC 21/033, issued 22 June 2021). A facade fire-spread result belongs to the exact assembly that was tested - substrate, board grade and thickness, firebreak material and positions, mesh, primer and topcoat are all part of it. Change any of them and the result no longer describes your wall.</b> |
| Service temperature                       | <b>EPS softens and creeps above roughly 70-80 C. Keep the system away from flues, chimneys and any hot surface.</b> <sup>°</sup>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| System guarantee                          | <b>12 years on the full Terraco EIFS system. This is an installer warranty, not a material property.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Certification                             | <b>ISO 9001:2015 quality management system (EQCSA, SANAS C22), valid to 2 June 2028. Agreement SA 2020/609 covers the LiteCore Building System as a non-load-bearing wall; it does not cover the render systems.</b> <sup>°</sup>                                                                                                                                                                  |

<sup>°</sup> Catalogue or declared value. Where a figure is load-bearing in your design, confirm it for the material supplied — on a load-bearing application, by testing the product delivered to your site.

## WHERE IT IS USED

- External wall insulation and decorative rendering of new and existing residential, commercial and institutional buildings - on masonry, timber or sheathed light-steel-frame substrates
- Retrofit and over-cladding of an existing building, where insulation has to be added without losing internal floor area
- DEFS (Direct-applied Exterior Finish System) - render-only texturing of masonry or board substrates, with no insulation board

- Decorative textured facades and architectural feature finishes - 50 colours, 0.8 to 3 mm grain
- Lightweight architectural detailing, bands and cornices formed in EPS and rendered, instead of built in masonry
- Board and drywall joint treatment, soffit skimming, crack repair and skim finishing (Handycoat range)
- Roof and facade waterproofing over the completed render (Flexicoat, Weathercoat GP) - measured and applied separately from the textured finish

#### WHERE NOT TO USE IT

- Not for use as a fire division, and not on any wall that must carry a fire-resistance rating in minutes - party walls, escape routes, boundary walls, firewalls. A fire division needs a fire-resistance rating; the render adds no minutes. The required rating must be achieved by the wall behind the insulation, to SANS 10177-2.
- Not to be specified on a tall or high-consequence facade without a rational fire design by a competent person, and without the current large-scale facade fire-spread certificate for the exact build-up you are installing.
- Not on an EPS facade detailed with horizontal firebreaks only. Vertical fire breaks are required at 5 m maximum spacing, and at every division, occupancy and tenancy separating element.
- Not against or near flues, chimneys, braai or boiler enclosures, or any hot surface. All EPS is combustible - the FRCel grade is fire-retardant treated, not non-combustible - and EPS softens and creeps above roughly 70-80 C.
- Not below grade, in permanent ground contact, or in the splash zone. Terminate the insulation above the splash line on a base track with a drip bead. A rendered skin is not a below-grade waterproofing system.
- Not in contact with solvent-based adhesives, bituminous primers, petroleum products or solvent-borne mastics. They dissolve polystyrene at the contact face.
- Not in high-impact or high-abuse zones - loading yards, plant rooms, public frontages, agricultural buildings - without an armoured detail. A rendered EPS skin is punched through easily. Double the mesh at ground-floor impact zones as a minimum.
- Not to be left exposed to UV during construction. Unprotected EPS chalks, yellows and turns friable, and a degraded face will not hold the basecoat bond.
- Not as a SANS 10400-XA compliance measure on ordinary cavity masonry or on a plastered single leaf of 140 mm or more. Those walls already satisfy XA without added insulation. Specify EIFS there on comfort, thermal-bridge control or a SANS 204 rational-design route.
- Not to carry structural or sustained bearing load. The render skin is non-structural; no span, load or capacity figure applies to it.

**How to read this document.** Where a figure is load-bearing in your design, confirm it for the material actually supplied — on any load-bearing application, by testing the product delivered to your site. That is the right way to buy from anybody, including us.

This is product information, not a design. It does not replace a competent person. Technopol SA (Pty) Ltd · info@technopol.co.za · +27 11 363 2780 · The test reports and certificates cited here are held by Technopol and their current status is available on request.