



**Thinset Exterior Surfacing System**  
*"The Next Generation in Architectural Finishes"*

- **Enhances overall stucco performance**
- **Increases stucco strength**
- **Promotes stronger bonding to questionable surfaces**
- **Increases crack-resistance**
- **Improves curing**, resulting in greater hydration of the cement and a fuller cure
- **Boosts workability**, allowing for softer, creamier, smoother troweling
- **Low VOCs**, meets South Coast Air Quality Management District VOC emission standards



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Patent Pending

# Additive and Bonding Agent

TESS Additive and Bonding Agent (TABA) is a multi-purpose acrylic product that enhances overall stucco performance and improves handling characteristics. TABA is used instead of water when mixing TESS One Coat Stucco to increase the adhesive, flexural and tensile strength of the stucco, making a stronger bond to questionable surfaces while increasing resistance to cracking. TABA improves the curing of the stucco, facilitating damp cure in situ by retaining moisture in the stucco during the cure cycle, resulting in greater hydration of the cement and a fuller cure. It also boosts the workability of the stucco, allowing for softer, creamier, smoother troweling.

TESS Additive and Bonding Agent is also used to assist bonding of new stucco or base coat to existing hardened concrete, masonry or CMU (concrete masonry unit such as cement block).

## INSTALLATION

**Approved Substrates:** Concrete or unit masonry. Dens Glass® Gold, Fiberock® Aqua-Tough™ sheathing, water-resistant core gypsum sheathing, EPS board, fiberglass-mesh-reinforced concrete backer board, and OSB board covered with water-resistant membrane and galvanized wire lath.

**Surface Preparation:** All surfaces must be clean and free of debris, dirt and dust, efflorescence, grease, oils, curing agents, and cleaning solutions. Ensure that all surfaces are smooth and free of any irregularities. Repair cracks and voids with appropriate patching material prior to application. Cleaning and smoothing may be accomplished by pressure washing, mechanical sanding, scraping, chipping, and/or sandblasting. Smooth or glossy surfaces must be roughened or abraded to ensure positive bond.

**Mixing and Application:** In all applications, use at full (100%) strength, as supplied; do not dilute with water. Follow standard mixing instructions for one coat stucco (see TESS One Coat Stucco Data Sheet) except substitute TABA for water when mixing.

**As an additive** – Add to both sanded and unsanded TESS One Coat Stucco in place of water, mixing in customary amounts as needed to obtain standard troweling consistency.

**As a bonding agent** – Using brush or roller, paint directly and evenly onto existing hardened concrete, masonry or CMU (concrete masonry unit such as cement block) allowing TABA to penetrate the substrate. Avoid excess treatment that may cause the product to run down the wall or puddle at the bottom. Extremely porous substrates may require a second coat. Apply fresh stucco while bonding agent is still slightly wet or tacky to touch, generally up to one hour after application in average temperature and humidity conditions.

**Curing:** When mixed with TESS One Coat Stucco, TABA is self-curing. Under average temperature and humidity conditions no additional damp curing of the stucco is required. Misting or damp curing is recommended under conditions of high heat and/or low humidity which could prematurely dry-out the stucco. Under average drying conditions of 70°F (21°C) and 55% R.H., stucco is ready

to receive the TESS Primer coat application in 24 hours. Absolute curing time is dependent on relative humidity and temperature. At lower temperatures, longer curing time may be necessary.

**Limitations:** Surface and ambient temperature must be between 40°F and 100°F (4°C and 37.8°C) during application and throughout curing process. Avoid applying stucco in direct sunlight. Protect installed stucco from rain, snow or frost for a period of 48–72 hours. Use expansion joints as required. Not recommended for horizontal, below grade or water-immersed surfaces. Never install over frozen surfaces. Some minor cracking and efflorescence are inherent in Portland cement plasters, are not product defects, and are part of the natural curing cycle.

**Packaging:** 5-gallon (19 Liter) plastic pails.

**Coverage:** Typical one coat stucco coverage is not altered by mixing with TABA but such coverage remains subject to variance due to ambient temperature, surface temperature, surface porosity, mixing, and substrate characteristics.

**Sanded One Coat Stucco:** Coverage is approximately 20–25 square feet (1.9 to 2.3 square meters) per bag at 3/8" (9.5 mm) thickness.

**Unsanded One Coat Stucco mixed with sand** in the proper ratio (see TESS Unsanded One Coat Stucco data sheet): Coverage is approximately 80 square feet (7.4 square meters) per bag at 3/8" (9.5 mm) thickness, or 50 square feet (4.7 square meters) per bag at 5/8" (15.9 mm) thickness.

**Bonding Agent:** Coverage is 1250-1500 square feet (116.1 - 139.4 square meters) per 5-gallon (19 Liter) pail depending upon coarseness and porosity of substrate.

**Clean-up:** Clean all tools and equipment with water immediately after use.

**VOC Compliant:** This product complies with US EPA (40 CFR 59) and South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) Rule 1113, VOC emission standards for architectural coatings that require a VOC of less than 50 g/L.

**Shelf Life:** One year from date of manufacture in original sealed container. Store in cool, dry location out of direct sunlight. Protect from freezing.

# TESS®

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**Health Precautions:** Product is water-based. As with any chemical construction product, exercise care when handling.

**Safety Precautions:** Use adequate ventilation. Use of safety goggles and chemical-resistant gloves is strongly recommended. Immediately remove contaminated clothing.

**First Aid:** SKIN CONTACT: Wash thoroughly with soap and water. EYE CONTACT: Flush immediately with water for 10-15 minutes and contact a physician. RESPIRATORY PROBLEMS: Remove affected person to fresh air immediately and contact a physician. HYGIENE: Wash hands immediately after use. Wash clothing before reuse.

**Spills and Disposal:** Collect with suitable absorbent ma-

terial such as cotton rags. Dispose of in accordance with local, state or federal regulations.

**Warning:** KEEP CONTAINER CLOSED WHEN NOT IN USE. KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN. NOT FOR INTERNAL CONSUMPTION. FOR INDUSTRIAL USE ONLY. Consult the Material Safety Data Sheet on [www.tessfinishes.com](http://www.tessfinishes.com) for further health and safety information.

**Technical Assistance:** Telephone Formulated Solutions Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM EST: (718) 267-6380 ext. 111 or FAX inquiry to (718) 204-6013.

**Notice and Warranty Disclaimer:** Formulated Solutions (FS) products are intended for use by qualified professional contractors, not D-I-Y consumers or handymen. TESS® Systems and/or components must be specified by a qualified design professional, general contractor or builder as an element of a larger construction project. It must be installed in accordance with FS's instructions, the designer's specifications and local building code. Improper use of FS products or use as part of an improperly designed or constructed larger assembly or building may result in serious damage to this product, and to the structure of the building or its components.

FS disclaims all, and assumes no, liability for • products improperly applied by unqualified persons or entities • an improperly designed or constructed building • the nonperformance of adjacent building components or assemblies • other construction activities beyond FS's control • on-site inspections.

FS has provided the enclosed Instructions and Recommendations (I/R) to assist the USER in the application of this product. These I/Rs are not warranted to be comprehensive, complete, thorough or conclusive as regards

any specific installation. It is the USER'S obligation to ensure that the product is suitable for its intended use and that it is compatible with existing conditions or applications of other coincident or adjoining materials. The liability of the SELLER and MANUFACTURER, whether express or implied, whether in contract or in tort, arising out of warranties, representations, instructions or defects from any cause shall be limited exclusively to replacing the product, provided the same is proved defective, or refunding the purchase price upon return of the unused product. In no event will SELLER or MANUFACTURER be liable for consequential damages, including but not limited to loss of materials, costs of labor, loss of profits, costs of replacement goods, or other commercial loss. The USER accepts the product AS IS, and without warranties express or implied. Subject to FS approval, certain installations of TESS may be eligible for a limited warranty provided by FS. For further information, please contact your Distributor.

For the most current and complete information on proper application, clean-up, mixing, specifications, warranties, cautions and disclaimers, please refer to the company manual or our website at [www.tessfinishes.com](http://www.tessfinishes.com).



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