

## TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

## LATEX CLEANING POULTICE 'STANDARD' & 'LOW AMMONIA' TYPES

### DESCRIPTION

This document should be read in conjunction with the product **Health & Safety Data Sheet** to ensure safe and appropriate storage, handling and disposal.

The product is suitable for the internal cleaning of building masonry, timber and metal, particularly the removal of soot, including fire damage soot. It is supplied in a range of cleaning strengths, adopted to suit the substrate and degree of cleaning required.

The product has a 'cream' consistency but once exposed to air cures slowly to a rubbery film. This can be peeled away from the substrate with the soiling adhered or absorbed into its surface. The latex performs several functions: It allows the product and soiling to be peeled without the need for rinsing or scraping and it also limits the dwell/activation time without the supervision that would be required with a liquid or gel.

Latex Poultice is supplied in 'Standard' and 'Low Ammonia' types. The handling characteristics are very similar to one another including general appearance, application thickness, dwell time and removal. The 'Low Ammonia' type may be found generally to have a lower viscosity when first applied.

### CONSTITUENTS AND MIXING

Both types, 'Standard' & 'Low Ammonia', are blended in a range of cleaning strength from 'A' to 'E' by the addition of EDTA, a constituent used in cleaning, medicine and food manufacture. EDTA is a 'sequestering' agent, forming complexes with, and mobilising metallic salts and other residue.



Standard grade 'A' contains no EDTA whilst grades B-E contain EDTA by increased percentage. All grades of the 'Low Ammonia' version contain EDTA.

For the cleaning of polished marble, preference should be given to the minimum EDTA content. Grades A-C are normally supplied pre-mixed, ready for use. Stronger grades are normally supplied in two parts to extend shelf life. 'Lighter' grades can be strengthened retrospectively with additive.

Mixing can be made with a stick or paddle. If using a machine mixer, care must be taken not to overheat the mixture as this can accelerate the curing of the latex.

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### APPLICATION AND REMOVAL

Protect surfaces not to be cleaned, particularly carpet and fabrics. Do not apply to clean, gritty textured surfaces as the latex may prove difficult to remove.

Application can be made by brush, roller, or airless spray. If the surface is highly detailed or textured, spraying will be considerably quicker to apply and will normally use less product for a given area.

Thicker deposits may respond best to brush application, the soot being mixed into the latex as it's applied.

Typical usage: 0.25-0.5kg per m<sup>2</sup> for flat work, 0.5-1kg per m<sup>2</sup> for detail, per application. It is important to achieve full coverage, better to apply thickly than too thin. Application is initially white but cures to a translucent yellow/brown. Take care to apply full thickness to the edge and over high points in the surface to reduce tearing during removal.

To soften and reduce the tension in the latex when peeling from a carved or delicate surface, a light spray of warm water to the film 1-2 minutes before will be found advantageous. The product is not suitable for use in low temperatures or high humidity. The recommended ambient temperature should be in the range 1125°C.

Latex used at low temperatures, in damp conditions or semi-exposed locations (porches for example) may be slow to cure. This can greatly extend the active dwell time and can result in over-cleaning or bleaching of the substrate.



Ensure the container of product is at working temperature before use. Recommended dwell time 12-24 hours. Recommended maximum 48 hours. Shorter dwell times may be suitable but should be verified 'case by case'.

Once the latex is removed, it may be found advantageous to 'roll' the surface with a clean, damp sponge to remove any remaining residue activated but not removed by the latex. This may avoid the need for additional application of the product.

### PACKAGING

Standard packaging – 15/17kg tub.  
However, any weight can be supplied on request.