

## Walltransform

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Agrément Certificate  
**04/4136**  
Product Sheet 1

## WALLREFORM

### WALLREFORM BACKING PLASTER

This Agrément Certificate Product Sheet<sup>(1)</sup> relates to Wallreform<sup>(2)</sup> Backing Plaster, for use as a salt-retardant backing plaster on internal walls of existing buildings after a remedial damp-proof course has been installed.

(1) Hereinafter referred to as 'Certificate'.

(2) Wallreform is a registered trademark.

#### CERTIFICATION INCLUDES:

- factors relating to compliance with Building Regulations where applicable
- factors relating to additional non-regulatory information where applicable
- independently verified technical specification
- assessment criteria and technical investigations
- design considerations
- installation guidance
- regular surveillance of production
- formal three-yearly review.



#### KEY FACTORS ASSESSED

**Strength and stability** — the product has adequate adhesion and will provide a stable base for finishing plaster (see section 6).

**Durability** — the product has a durability equivalent to that of traditional plastering (see section 11).

The BBA has awarded this Certificate to the company named above for the product described herein. This product has been assessed by the BBA as being fit for its intended use provided it is installed, used and maintained as set out in this Certificate.

On behalf of the British Board of Agrément

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Wroe'.

Date of First issue: 5 February 2014

Originally certified on 24 August 2004

Simon Wroe  
Head of Approvals — Materials

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Claire Curtis-Thomas'.

Claire Curtis-Thomas  
Chief Executive

*The BBA is a UKAS accredited certification body — Number 113. The schedule of the current scope of accreditation for product certification is available in pdf format via the UKAS link on the BBA website at [www.bbacerts.co.uk](http://www.bbacerts.co.uk)*

*Readers are advised to check the validity and latest issue number of this Agrément Certificate by either referring to the BBA website or contacting the BBA direct.*

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# Regulations

In the opinion of the BBA, Wallreform Backing Plaster, used as described in this Certificate is not subject to the following national Building Regulations.



## The Building Regulations 2010 (England and Wales) (as amended)



## The Building (Scotland) Regulations 2004 (as amended)



## The Building Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2012

### Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2007

### Construction (Design and Management) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007

Information in this Certificate may assist the client, CDM co-ordinator, designer and contractors to address their obligations under these Regulations.

See sections: 3 *Delivery and site handling* (3.1 and 3.5) and 12 *Procedure* (12.8) of this Certificate.

# Technical Specification

## 1 Description

1.1 Wallreform Backing Plaster is a cement-based backing plaster containing expanded polystyrene beads and other additives.

1.2 A vinyl acetate ethylene co-polymer emulsion is used as a bonding agent.

1.3 Other items or components which may be used with the product, but outside the scope of this Certificate, are:

- finishing plaster as recommended by the Certificate holder
- beads and other accessories.

1.4 Details of suitable products must be obtained from the Certificate holder.

## 2 Manufacture

2.1 The powder component is manufactured in a batch blending process. Quality control is exercised over raw materials and on the final product.

2.2 As part of the assessment and ongoing surveillance of product quality, the BBA has:

- agreed with the manufacturer the quality control procedures and product testing to be undertaken
- assessed and agreed the quality control operated over batches of incoming materials
- monitored the production process and verified that it is in accordance with the documented process
- evaluated the process for management of nonconformities
- checked that equipment has been properly tested and calibrated
- undertaken to carry out the above measures on a regular basis through a surveillance process, to verify that the specifications and quality control operated by the manufacturer are being maintained.

## 3 Delivery and site handling

3.1 The product is supplied as two separate components: powder and polystyrene beads, sealed in a single bag with a nominal total weight of 12.5 kg.

3.2 The bags must be stored under dry, internal conditions on pallets.

3.3 Unopened bags may be stored for up to one year. The bags must be used in rotation.

3.4 Each bag bears the product identification, batch number, date of manufacture, the NESTA<sup>(1)</sup> logo and the BBA logo incorporating the number of this Certificate.

(1) The National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts.

3.5 The product is cement based and must be handled following the precautions applicable for Portland cement.

# Assessment and Technical Investigations

The following is a summary of the assessment and technical investigations carried out on Wallreform Backing Plaster.

## Design Considerations

### 4 General

4.1 Wallreform Backing Plaster is satisfactory for internal use on walls over traditional sand/cement render, brickwork, blockwork and concrete substrates, where there has been rising damp and a remedial dpc treatment has been conducted.

4.2 It is applied at a maximum thickness of 40 mm, using the normal procedures defined in the relevant parts of BS 8481 : 2006 and BS EN 13914-2 : 2005, and is finished using a suitable finishing plaster.

4.3 The product has adequate resistance to impact damage and cracking.

### 5 Practicability of installation

The product is designed to be installed by experienced plasterers. To avoid split responsibility, the replastering should be conducted by the dpc installer or their approved agent.

### 6 Strength and stability

The product adheres well to prepared masonry surfaces and provides a stable backing for finishing plasters. It is unlikely to crack or lose adhesion unless structural movement takes place. Its flexural and compressive strengths are similar to those of traditional lime-based plasters.

### 7 Resistance to salt transfer

Where rising damp has created a high salt content in walls and an effective remedial treatment has been conducted and where no other source of water ingress exists, the product will provide an effective barrier against salt transfer.

### 8 Fixing and chasing

Normal methods for fixing and chasing can be used. The surface should be restored using a suitable finishing plaster.

### 9 Performance in relation to fire

9.1 When tested in accordance with BS EN ISO 11925-2 : 2010 and BS EN 13823 : 2010 and classified in accordance with BS EN 13501-1 : 2007, a 40 mm thick specimen of the product applied to a 10 mm thick reinforced calcium silicate substrate with a mass per unit area of 12.0 kg·m<sup>-2</sup> achieved a reaction to fire classification of B-s1, d0.

9.2 When tested in accordance with BS 476-6 : 1989, Wallreform Backing Plaster achieved a fire propagation index (I) of 4.3 with sub-index (i<sub>1</sub>) of 2.0 and when tested to BS 476-7 : 1997 achieved a Class 1 surface. Therefore, it has a Class 0 surface or 'low risk' surface as defined in the various national Building Regulations.

### 10 Maintenance

As the product is always coated with a suitable gypsum-based finishing plaster, maintenance is not required.

### 11 Durability

The durability of the product is equivalent to that of traditional plastering to BS 8481 : 2006 and BS EN 13914-2 : 2005.

## Installation

### 12 General

#### Diagnosis and preparation

12.1 A full survey to diagnose the causes of dampness is made by a specialist surveyor.

12.2 If rising damp is found, a remedial treatment is conducted in accordance with BS 6576 : 2005.

12.3 Appropriate remedial measures are taken to rectify other causes for damp conditions, and to repair structural damage. Defective plaster and plaster affected by moisture and hygroscopic salts should be removed to at least 300 mm above the highest detectable sign of dampness or one metre above the dpc, whichever is the higher.

12.4 It is essential that the surface receiving the product provides a sound mechanical key to ensure a satisfactory bond between substrate and the product.

12.5 A vinyl acetate ethylene co-polymer emulsion must be used as a bonding agent. The Certificate holder must be consulted for suitable products and instructions for use.

## Procedure

12.6 The product may be applied as soon as the dpc has been installed and the substrate properly prepared in accordance with the Certificate holder's instructions and this Certificate.

12.7 The product is prepared for use by mixing the two components with approximately 5 litres of water using a slow-speed drill fitted with a suitable paddle mixer, until a uniform consistency is achieved.

12.8 When mixing, a filter respirator should be worn. Where excessive concentrations of dust may accumulate, the measures defined in the Health and Safety Executive EH40/2005 *Workplace Exposure Limits*<sup>(1)</sup> for unlisted substances should be followed.

(1) As this document is revised periodically, it must be ensured that the current edition is used.

12.9 The product is applied to achieve a maximum thickness of 40 mm, and a level surface. The product must not be applied below the level of the dpc. If necessary a batten can be used to achieve this.

12.10 Except in cold, damp conditions the product should be sufficiently dry after 24 hours to accept the finishing coat. The Certificate holder should be consulted for advice.

## Redecoration

12.11 After a remedial dpc treatment is conducted, a 230 mm thick solid brick wall will normally dry in 6 to 12 months, provided normal heating is used during the winter months. A thicker wall will take longer. During this period any redecoration must be permeable to water vapour, eg the wall may be decorated with one coat of matt emulsion.

## Repair

12.12 Damaged plaster must be removed to sound material, reapplied and finished to the original specification.

# Technical Investigations

## 13 Tests

Tests were carried out to determine the effect of salts.

## 14 Investigations

14.1 The manufacturing process was evaluated, including the methods adopted for quality control, and details were obtained of the quality and compositions of materials used.

14.2 A re-assessment was made by the BBA of data associated with BBA Certificate 02/3951.

# Bibliography

BS 476-6 : 1989 *Fire tests on building materials and structures — Method of test for fire propagation for products*

BS 6576 : 2005 *Code of practice for diagnosis of rising damp in walls of buildings and installation of chemical damp-proof courses*

BS 8481 : 2006 *Design, preparation and application of internal gypsum, cement, cement and lime plastering systems — Specification*

BS EN 13501-1 : 2007 *Fire classification of construction products and building elements — Classification using test data from reaction to fire tests*

BS EN 13823 : 2010 *Reaction to fire tests for building products — Building products excluding floorings exposed to the thermal attack by a single burning item*

BS EN 13914-2 : 2005 *Design, preparation and application of external rendering and internal plastering — Design considerations and essential principles for internal plastering*

BS EN ISO 11925-2 : 2010 *Reaction to fire tests — Ignitability of products subjected to direct impingement of flame — Single-flame source test*

## 15 Conditions

15.1 This Certificate:

- relates only to the product/system that is named and described on the front page
- is issued only to the company, firm, organisation or person named on the front page — no other company, firm, organisation or person may hold or claim that this Certificate has been issued to them
- is valid only within the UK
- has to be read, considered and used as a whole document — it may be misleading and will be incomplete to be selective
- is copyright of the BBA
- is subject to English Law.

15.2 Publications, documents, specifications, legislation, regulations, standards and the like referenced in this Certificate are those that were current and/or deemed relevant by the BBA at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate.

15.3 This Certificate will remain valid for an unlimited period provided that the product/system and its manufacture and/or fabrication, including all related and relevant parts and processes thereof:

- are maintained at or above the levels which have been assessed and found to be satisfactory by the BBA
- continue to be checked as and when deemed appropriate by the BBA under arrangements that it will determine
- are reviewed by the BBA as and when it considers appropriate.

15.4 The BBA has used due skill, care and diligence in preparing this Certificate, but no warranty is provided.

15.5 In issuing this Certificate, the BBA is not responsible and is excluded from any liability to any company, firm, organisation or person, for any matters arising directly or indirectly from:

- the presence or absence of any patent, intellectual property or similar rights subsisting in the product/system or any other product/system
- the right of the Certificate holder to manufacture, supply, install, maintain or market the product/system
- actual installations of the product/system, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any works and constructions in which the product/system is installed, including their nature, design, methods, performance, workmanship and maintenance
- any loss or damage, including personal injury, howsoever caused by the product/system, including its manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal
- any claims by the manufacturer relating to CE marking.

15.6 Any information relating to the manufacture, supply, installation, use, maintenance and removal of this product/system which is contained or referred to in this Certificate is the minimum required to be met when the product/system is manufactured, supplied, installed, used, maintained and removed. It does not purport in any way to restate the requirements of the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, or of any other statutory, common law or other duty which may exist at the date of issue or reissue of this Certificate; nor is conformity with such information to be taken as satisfying the requirements of the 1974 Act or of any statutory, common law or other duty of care.