

# DECOLISS

DECOLISS is a pre-mixed lime mortar developed to achieve a flat or polished surface. It consists of natural lime, fine granulometry aggregates, including talc, and additives to prevent shrinkage and tearing. It does not contain cement or other pozzolanic components.

## PACKAGING

- 10 kg (22 lbs) pail
- 20 kg (44 lbs) bag

## BACKGROUND

- DECOLISS is used only for interior walls that have been prepared with:
  - a. Lime and sand plaster, flat finish
  - b. DECOFOND
  - c. Acrylic primerSurface irregularities should not exceed 1/32" (1 mm).

## COLORS

- Standard colors: please consult us.
- Custom colors: maximum addition of 4.8 oz (136 grams) of mineral pigments per pound of DECOLISS (300 grams per kg)
- For strong, deep colors, it is recommended to color the base coat.

## MIXING

- Mechanically mix approximately 1-1 / 2 to 2 gallons (6 to 7 liters) of clean water in a 22 lbs. (10 kg) pail of DECOLISS.
- To increase the workability, the mixing can be done 24 hours earlier.
- The mix shall be homogeneous, without lumps or unmixed material.

## CONSUMPTION

- One pail will cover between 200 and 400 square feet, depending on the number of passes.
- One bag will cover between 400 and 800 square feet, depending on the number of passes.

## ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS

- Temperature should be above 40°F and below 85°F.
- Avoid drafts.

## PREPARATION

- On uneven heterogeneous backgrounds or backgrounds with no suction, first, apply a base coat of DECOFOND.
- EcoMortar F or NHL mortar mixed on site with sand 0-#20 (0 – 0.8mm) are also suitable for the application of DECOLISS

- The application background has to be prepared to offer a smooth surface without protruding coarse aggregate granules that might cause tearing when the DECOLISS is applied.
- On drywall, prepared with a #4 level finish, apply an acrylic primer (adding some fine sand to the primer may help give it some "teeth" for the finish coat to adhere to.)

### **EXAMPLES OF APPLICATION TECHNIQUES**

- The base coat of DECOFOND shall be firm but still fresh (a fresco) or humid but without visible water on the surface.
- On a straight surface, apply the 1st coat of Decoliss 1/32" (0.5mm), float with a steel trowel as a normal plaster. Wait for it to dry sufficiently before applying the second coat.
- The 2nd coat, again very thin, will be applied as a skim and floated again with a steel trowel. In order to facilitate polishing, mist diluted black soap on the surface or on the trowel and / or six (6) tablespoons of black soap in one pail of DECOLISS. It will be firmly pressed on to the point where some polished effects can begin to be seen. At this point the surface should be left to dry for about 2 – 3 hours or until it has reached sufficient hardness to accept the subsequent polishing action.
- To obtain a polished finish (Marmorino type), when the surface is dry and hard enough work on it with a small Marmorino stainless steel trowel. The pressing action has to be quite powerful and the angle of the trowel should be kept quite acute. Either on the trowel or on the surface apply small amounts of Linseed oil (preferred) or a higher concentration of soapy water and spread this onto the surface by floating. The size and direction of the marble "veins" that will be formed depends on the floating action (short or wider strokes, semi circular and in different directions depending on the visual preference).
- Wax or black soap may be applied on the finish surface in order to create additional effects as well as protection against stains.
- Further polishing is obtained by using a natural, pigment free beeswax applied with a soft, clean cloth about 2 to 3 days from completing the work.
- A sample panel should be prepared to check the visual aspect of the final finish.

### **COLORED FINISHES**

- The natural color of Decoliss is white. Pigmentation is possible. Pigments should be added to the mix as a paste or pre diluted in clean water. Pigments in powder should be well crushed before dilution in water.
- The quantity of pigments added should not exceed 300 grams per kg. of Decoliss. St. Astier Distributors will be able to supply the necessary pigments for the color chosen.
- The floating action will produce a surface with different tonalities and veins.
- It is possible, depending on the skill of the applicator, to achieve more noticeable tonalities on the final coat to simulate complex marble structures. This is obtained by applying the second coat in 2 or 3 passes of about 1/32" (0.5mm). Each coat is pigmented differently and is floated with a small steel trowel. The pressure exercised in the floating action will allow some of the color tones of the previous

coat to come through. Each coat will contain some diluted natural soap. The final work will be polished as described previously.

- A professional applicator will also be able to introduce streaks of color into the body of the final coat. This is done by applying on one or more spots, a small amount of pigment paste and then floating it as a pattern into the fresh mortar
- Again, the execution of sample panels is recommended.

### **DAY WORK – FINISH COAT**

- When large surfaces are going to be plastered it is recommended to divide the site in areas equivalent to one day of work, each keeping the edges moist to accept the work on the adjacent area the next day.

### **FRESCO WORK**

- On the second coat still fresh but sufficiently hard, pigmented lime washes can be applied by brush in different passes, floated with the Marmorino trowel at each pass and tightened even further with a stainless steel spatula or trowel. After several passes (7 – 10) a very smooth and highly polished patina will be obtained.
- To obtain shadows effect, apply the pigmented lime wash with a sponge (or with a brush by exercising different stroke pressure) over several spots, float these in several passes if required and wax the completed work when dry.
- The time between the various passes is dictated by the drying conditions. Each pass should not tear away the previous, therefore the backing coat should be sufficiently dry.

### **FRESCO PAINTING**

- These are obtained by using only diluted pigments on a finished lime plaster surface. The visual impact of the design is obviously related to the finish on the surface.