

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE REINFORCING MESH IN EIFS?



The Reinforcing mesh, incorporated into the EIF System by embedding it in the base coat, provides strength and impact resistance to the lamina (base coat, mesh and finish). The mesh consist of glass fibers coated with an alkali resistant resin coating that protects the glass from the harsh alkali conditions of the cementitious base coats.

SPECIFYING MESH

Weight:

The weight of the Reinforcing mesh equals the weight of the glass fibers plus the weight of the coating. Teifs uses a standard weight of 4.8 ounces per square yard versus the industry standard of 4.0 to 4.5 oz mesh, meaning that we put 0.8 to 0.3 oz of more coating per square yard on our mesh. What does this mean?

Most EIFS base coats are mixed with cement and therefore are very alkaline. This alkalinity can eat away or worse, dissolve fiberglass. The alkali resistant coatings protect the

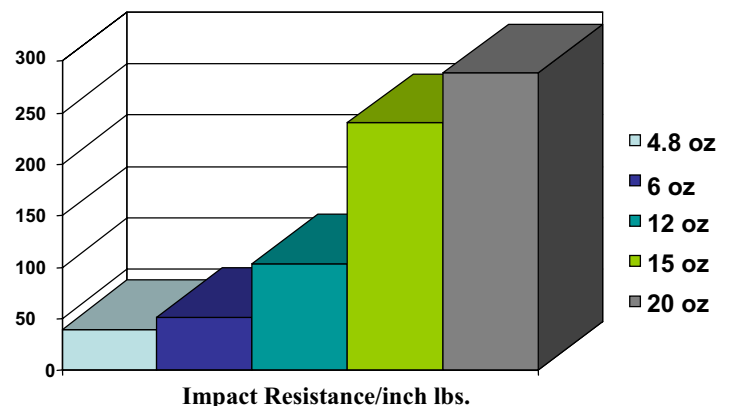
fiberglass from the harsh environment of the base coat. Therefore enough coating and increased weight is essential for a high quality system.

Manufacturer:

The reinforcing mesh is an integral component of an EIF System that influences the overall performance of the cladding. Performance of the mesh is evaluated as a component as well as part of the overall EIFS cladding system. Due to our standards and testing, Teifs does not allow the use of any mesh except that supplied by us. The use of any other mesh will void our warranty. Our meshes have been tested for alkali resistance, chemical compatibility, tensile strength, workability and for overall performance of the EIFS cladding system, such as impact, crack and fire resistance.

IMPACT RESISTANCE

For increased impact resistance, we offer a variety of mesh weights (ounces per yard).



WHERE SHOULD I USE HIGH IMPACT MESH?

- Around Balconies
- High Traffic Areas
- Ground Floor
- Special Shapes that project away from the wall
- Parapet caps

Teifs does not recommend using standard EIFS on semi-horizontal areas or parapets. However, should you choose to specify an EIF System in a semi flat location, it is required that you use ultra high impact mesh and water proof base coat, TeifsSTAYDRY.

For ground floor areas that will be subjected to continuous abuse, Teifs recommends that EIFS not be used at all. While an EIF System can be made very impact resistant from a blunt impact standpoint, EIFS are never puncture resistant. This can affect wall cladding selection on ground floors of schools for example.

Water vapor transmission analysis is recommended when over 50% of the total wall area, within a given building story, uses 15 or 20 ounce Mesh. Teifs can provide a



water vapor transmission analysis, free of charge. Simply go to www.teifs.com and fillout the required form.

COST

High Impact mesh tends to be one of the first elements that is value engineered from a project. We recommend that you take a hard look before doing this. Most of the dissatisfaction from the performance of an EIF System is related to damage that could have been prevented by the appropriate use of high impact meshes.

Look for more TekTips coming next quarter!



220 Burlison • San Antonio, Texas • 78202
Phone (210) 472-2935 • Fax (210) 472-2946 • 1-800-358-4785
www.teifs.com • teifs@teifs.com