Weatherwise

10.04.2024

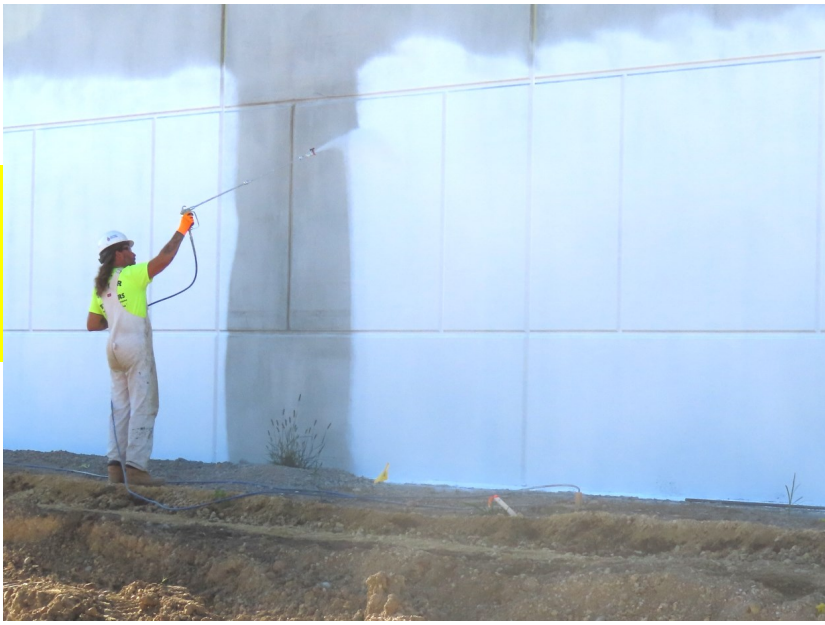
Winter Coatings Guidelines

Potential Winter Construction Challenges

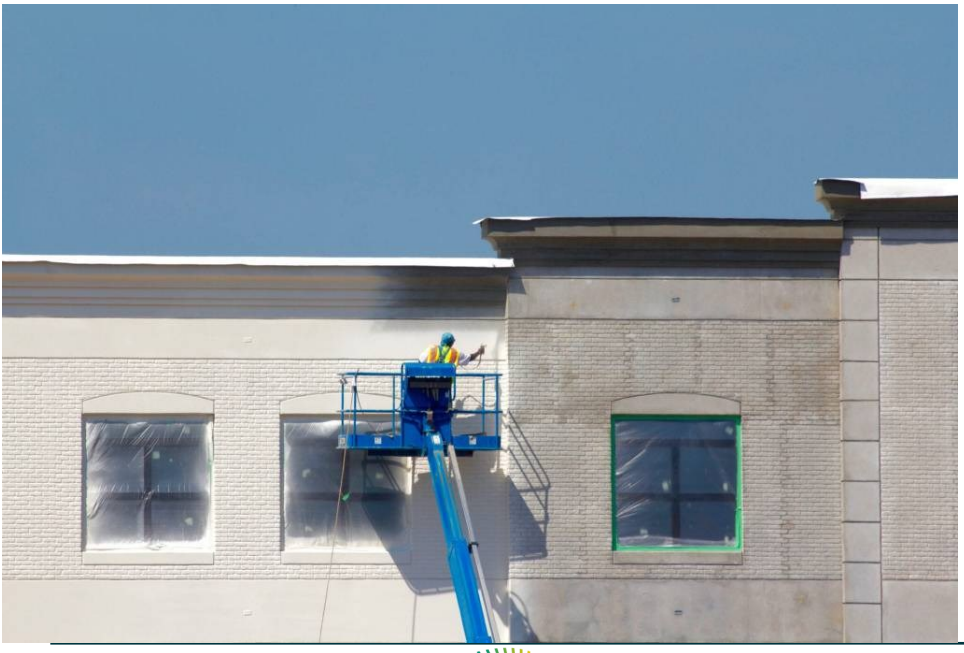
Precautions are needed on the construction sites to avoid potential challenges associated with cold and sunny winter weather conditions. Neglecting caution during cold and sunny winter weather can contribute to avoidable problems in a Coating installation. Bond failure, cracking, shrinkage, etc.. are more likely to happen in winter installations. Adhesion is typically the last phase in the curing process. Winter installation concerns noted are likely not to be visible until after the spring thaw, which will likely be too late or costly and time consuming to correct.

Understanding the concerns and taking the following precautions in the winter, is usually far less costly and time consuming than coming back in six months to repair the results.

***Stay on schedule and follow these guidelines**.*



- ❒ Substrate must be clean, dry, and frost free —always wipe surfaces to remove unseen frost.
- ❒ Be careful applying warm material on cold surfaces, because a thin layer of condensation will develop on the substrate, which will inhibit proper bond of the material to the substrate. Borderline winter installs will become an issue that could be prevented—talk to the Quality Department.
- ❒ Protect all coatings and paints from freezing. Do not store materials outside or in an unheated truck (on-site or off-site). Most products need to be stored above 50ºF.
- ❒ Generally, most coatings will need +40ºF and rising until proper cure (contact the manufacturer for temperate and length of time above freezing for proper cure). Always evaluate overnight temperatures and wind.
- ❒ Do not apply if rain is expected within the cure time of the coatings or paint. Discuss with the manufacturer for timing required to prevent the material from washing off the building or change colors.



- ❒ Always install coatings or paint above +5ºF of the dew point, regardless of the temperature. Make sure that the installer properly tracks this information.
- ❒ If temporary heat is being used on the interior of the building, make sure it is INDIRECT heat. ***(SEE AECOM TEMPORARY HEAT BULLETIN FOR MORE INFORMATION)***
- ❒ How will the material be kept above the required temperature during the installation.
- ❒ When spraying in cold temperatures, make sure that the equipment and the hose is properly insulated and kept warm.

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Corey S. Zussman, AIA, NCARB, RBEC, CABS
303 East Wacker Drive – Suite 1400 | Chicago, IL 60601
www.AECOM.com