Air-Bloc MR

FAQ: Frequently Asked Questions

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What is Air-Bloc MR?

With design professionals and building owners increasing focus on issues of mold, mildew and fungus development on residential and commercial buildings, Henry Company has upgraded the performance of key Air-Bloc water-based liquid applied air and water barrier membranes to be mold resistant.

Which Air-Bloc products have been upgraded?

All Air-Bloc 31, Air-Bloc 32 and Air-Bloc 33 now has improved mold, mildew and fungus resistance and are designated: <u>Air-Bloc 31MR</u>, <u>Air-Bloc 32MR</u>, <u>Air-Bloc 33MR</u>. New container labels will clearly designate the upgraded material is enclosed.

Have any physical properties or performance properties changed?

No – the physical and performance properties are the same with the exception of now providing mold, mildew and fungus resistance.

Is there a guarantee that mold will never grow on the building?

No. Mold is everywhere and can grow in a variety of adverse climates and conditions. What Air-Bloc MR does is offer a demonstrable level of resistance to growth of mold, mildew and fungus thus being part of an overall building design strategy to prevent its growth or propagation.

How is mold resistance measured or proved?

There is a variety of test methods today to measure mold resistance for construction materials. Henry Air-Bloc MR has been independently tested to ASTM D5590 designed for paints and coatings and uses test organisms commonly found in exterior exposure conditions. In all cases we ranked as -0- No Growth – the best rating available by this test method.

What is this ASTM test method?

ASTM D5590: published in 2000 and re-approved in 2010:

<u>Standard Test Method for Determining the Resistance of Paint Films and Related Coatings</u>
<u>to Fungal Defacement by Accelerated Four-Week Agar Plate Assay</u>

Why specify Henry MR technology?

Addition of anti-microbial agents within liquid applied air barriers is an added performance feature to further assist designers in tackling mold problems. The combined use of building materials with these properties form part of an overall strategy against future mold issues.

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How is the mold resistance feature added to Air-Bloc products?

Henry had developed an advanced antimicrobial technology which is incorporated into the manufacturing process of the liquid Air-Bloc products. This technology is uniformly dispersed throughout the finished membrane.

How does MR technology work?

MR Technology interacts with the growing fungal cells by interfering with enzyme reactions within the cells which are used by the cell to produce energy for growth and reproduction. Therefore this technology resists the proliferation of molds when in contact with the Air-Bloc surfaces.

Will Air-Bloc MR prevent mold within the entire wall cavity?

No Air-Bloc MR formulations only resist mold, mildew and fungus development on the Air-Bloc itself and does not effect conditions on other substrates.

Is this product safe?

There is no change in the handling, application, toxicity, environmental health and safety of this product versus regular Air-Bloc. Please reference published MSDS for more information.

Does this MR feature cost more?

Henry is not passing on the increased cost of this improved technology. Pricing of Air-Bloc 31MR, 32MR and 33MR remains the same.