Exterior Insulation & Finish Systems

BASF Wall Systems; proven to perform in any environment

The Chemical Company
An Introduction to EIFS

BASF Construction Chemicals’ Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems (EIFS) are highly decorative, multi-layered insulating and protective finish systems for exterior walls. EIFS are the only exterior wall covering that insulates and provides weather protection in a selection of shapes, colours and textures that can replicate almost any architectural style or finish material, or stand by itself as an architectural feature. Our EIFS are:

- E environmentally friendly
- I insulating and therefore energy saving
- F flexible in design
- S sustainable

50 Year Success Story

In the late 1950’s two significant inventions started the success story of Exterior Insulation and Finish Systems: expanded polystyrene and synthetic plaster. In 1950 BASF patented expandable polystyrene, the basic raw material for expanded polystyrene (EPS) boards. Since then Styropor® EPS has become synonymous for energy-saving construction.

EIFS were designed to meet the demand of the European construction market for retrofitting of solid masonry walls. When EIFS are applied on existing structures it improves the appearance and provides a cost effective insulation option to any type of structure.

EIFS became popular in the United States during the 1970’s when the oil embargo created a surge in interest in high energy efficiency wall systems. Over the past three decades EIFS have become the first choice for commercial building cladding in North America, with more than 20,000,000m² installed every year. The primary benefits that EIFS offer are:

- Energy efficiency
- Aesthetics
- Unlimited Design flexibility
About one third of global energy demand is consumed by private households. Up to 60% of this energy is used for space heating and air conditioning. In 2002 the buildings sector contributed to 21% of global CO₂ emissions. Therefore reducing the amount of electricity consumed by a building will help to reduce its carbon footprint as well as energy costs, which in turn leads to a more sustainable future.

**Exterior Insulation**

The insulation of buildings is widely seen as the most effective way to improve the energy efficiency of a structure. The external location of the insulation puts the insulation in the best place: as far towards the outside (where the temperature fluctuates) as possible. It can also cover the structure completely without any thermal breaks. This allows the wall structure to act like a cold/heat sink reducing the energy needed to maintain a constant indoor temperature (Fig 1).

Exterior Insulation offers many benefits; internal comfort levels are improved year-round, the costs of heating and cooling can be reduced on average by 30-55%, and condensation on walls and ceilings is virtually eliminated.

In an ongoing US Government wall cladding study, EIFS (with a 10cm EPS board) have been rated as the best performing wall system in terms of moisture management whilst maintaining superior thermal insulation performance.
Aesthetics - Create a Feeling

Different colours, textures and shapes are all around us, nature provides us with an infinite variety of these elements and inspires us to create imaginative and eye catching structures in which to live, work, rest and play.

Colours affect our emotions and can make structures stand out or blend into their surroundings. Different finishes and textures can give character and style to a building, i.e. antique, modern, metallic or stone-like. Architectural features add interest to a structure. Senergy Wall Systems offer the design flexibility to create almost any feature; from graceful arches and columns to cornices and intricate mouldings.
The Power of Colour
Everyone feels differently about colours, this is why we offer hundreds of colours as well as unlimited custom colour options to choose from. Colour samples should be viewed in natural light and on site if possible for final colour decisions. Our Colour Logic process helps ensure accurate colour matching and consistency.

Texture
Our architectural textures are inspired both by nature and historical stuccos, providing surfaces with depth and richness. Our popular finishes range from the elegance of Fine and Classic “ried” textures to more expressive coarse, stippled and stone finishes. Hand trowelled finishes give the opportunity for rich and unique textures and patterns.

Design Flexibility
Specially designed details are hand crafted utilizing expanded polystyrene (EPS) insulation boards. Light weight and responsive to sculpting, EPS gives the freedom to create shapes and details impossible or too expensive to produce with other claddings.
EIFS from BASF Wall Systems are a symbiosis of style and function, they are multi-layered systems composed of:

- Adhesive and optional secondary weather barrier.
- Insulation board
- Base Coat
- Reinforcing mesh
- Finish

**Insulation Board**
Expanded polystyrene is by far the most common insulation material for walls. The insulation board is adhesively and/or mechanically attached to the substrate and therefore serves as an exterior insulating layer. An optional secondary weather barrier provides additional protection against moisture and air infiltration.

**Base Coat and Reinforcing Mesh**
On top of the insulation board a layer of cementitious polymer modified base coat is applied, in which an alkaline resistant, reinforcing fibre glass mesh is fully embedded. Four levels of impact resistance are available, each meeting the ASTM Standard E 2486 – 06.

**Finish Coat**
Based on 100% acrylic binder technology the finish coat can be trowel or spray applied onto the base coat. This final layer provides a durable, crack and weather resistant surface giving the system its final stylish appearance.

In September 1999 the 155mph hurricane Floyd ripped through the Bahamas, toppling 30-foot trees and ripping roofs from homes. The Atlantis Resort and Casino, clad with 40,000m² of Senerflex® remained unscathed.
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<th>System</th>
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| **Senerflex® Classic PB**      | Adhesive + EPS Insulation Board + Reinforced Base Coat + 100% acrylic polymer Finish | • High-rise  
• Low-rise  
• New and retrofit construction  
• In all climates | • Design flexibility  
• Aesthetic appeal  
• Adhesively applied system to meet most wind-load requirements  
• Energy savings  
• Exceptional durability  
• Low maintenance |
| **Senerflex® Secondary Weather Barrier Design** | Senerflex® Classic PB + Senershield trowel-applied or Senershield-R roller-applied secondary weather barrier + Senerflash 9 at flashed openings and Senerflash 4 or Flexguard 4 at sealed sheathing joints | • When secondary weather barrier is desired  
• Added protection of the sheathing is desired  
• An air barrier is desired  
• Adhesive attachment is required to meet wind-load requirements. | • All the benefits of Classic PB  
• Cost-effective, added level of protection of sheathing and cavity against moisture and air infiltration  
• Increased energy efficiency |
| **Senerflex® Channelled Adhesive Design** | Senerflex PB + Vertical ribbons of adhesive on insulation board for evacuation of incidental moisture + Senershield trowel-applied or Senershield-R roller applied secondary weather barrier + Senerflash 9 or 22.9cm Sheathing Fabric at flashed openings and Senerflash 4, 10.2cm Sheathing Fabric or Flexguard 4 at sealed sheathing joints | • When a rainscreen or moisture drainage wall system is desired  
• To satisfy other local/ regional code issues related to drainage. | • All the benefits of Classic PB  
• Cost-effective, added level of protection of sheathing and cavity against moisture and air infiltration  
• The trowel pattern of the adhesive creates evacuation channels between the secondary barrier and the insulation board to allow exit of incidental moisture |
Algeria
BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS ALGERIA SARL
13, Rue Arezki Abri
16036 - Hydra - Algiers
Algeria
Tel: +213 21 603581
Fax: +213 21 601800
www.basf.com.dz

Kazakhstan
BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS CENTRAL ASIA LLP
Raimbek Ave. 211A,
Almaty
Republic of Kazakhstan
Tel: +7 3272 790013
Fax: +7 3272 333282
www.basf-cc.kz

South Africa
BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS SA PTY LTD.
P.O. Box 2801
Halfway House, 1685
Midrand
Tel: +27 11 203 2400
Fax: +27 11 203 2431
www.basf-cc.co.za

Azerbaijan
BASF CASPIAN YKS MMC
H.Z. Tagiyev Settlement
(Baku-Quba Highway)
Sumqayit
AZ 5022
Azerbaijan
Tel: +99 412 4187950
Fax: +99 412 4187951

Morocco
BASF MAROC SA
7, Rue des Orchidées
BP 2509 Ain Sebāâ
20250 Casablanca
Morocco
Tel: +212 22 669400
Fax: +212 22 350517
www.basf.co.ma

Turkey
BASF YKS AS
Mihribat Cd, Funda SK No.1
34 810 Kavacik
Istanbul
Turkey
Tel: +90 216 680 1212
Fax: +90 216 680 1236
www.basf-yks.com.tr

Egypt
BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS EGYPT SAE
94 Shehab St.
Mohandessin, Giza
Egypt
Tel: +20 2 3453483 / 4
Fax: +20 2 3453481 / 2
www.basf-cc.com.eg

Near East
BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS JORDAN
P. O. Box 752
11118 Amman
Jordan
Tel: +962 6 5521672
Fax: +962 6 5523148

United Arab Emirates
BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS UAE LLC
P.O. Box 37127
Dubai
United Arab Emirates
Tel: +971 4 8090800
Fax: +971 4 8851002
www.basf-cc.ae

Iran
IRANIAN BASF CONSTRUCTION CHEMICALS LTD.
Apt. 102 10th Floor No. 43
Saba Building, North Shaikh Bahaei Street
Tehran 19917
Iran
Tel: +98 21 88058501-4
Fax: +98 21 88058505
www.basf-cc.ir

Saudi Arabia
SAUDI BASF FOR BUILDING MATERIALS CO. LTD.
P. O. Box 1884
Al Khobar 31952
Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Tel: +966 3 8121140
Fax: +966 3 8121822

BASF is the world’s leading chemical company: The Chemical Company. Its portfolio ranges from chemicals, plastics, performance products, agricultural products and fine chemicals to crude oil and natural gas. As a reliable partner to virtually all industries, BASF’s high-value products and intelligent system solutions help its customers to be more successful. BASF develops new technologies and uses them to meet the challenges of the future and open up additional market opportunities. It combines economic success with environmental protection and social responsibility, thus contributing to a better future. BASF has approximately 95,000 employees and posted sales of €52.6 billion (approximately $86.1 billion) in 2006.

Further information on BASF is available on the Internet at www.basf.com