Euromix™ EPS Finishing System

Euromix™ offers a wide range of different render and texture solutions for finishing over polystyrene (EPS) walling systems.

1. Finishing System Summary:

Euromix™ recommends that any render, texture and paint finishing system applied over expanded polystyrene (EPS) walling should be designed and applied in such a way as to;

- Hide most sheet surface imperfections.
- Minimise the appearance of minor structural imperfections, misalignment of walls, etc.
- Provide a render/texture finish that is sufficiently thick/strong to be resistant to impact forces while still being able to flex with the EPS.

There are several Euromix™ products that can be applied in a number of different systems to achieve the above finish.

The key components of such systems are summarised as;

- Substrate preparation, patching & fixing of trims.
- Bedding render coat.
- Base render coat.
- Finishing render coat.
- Texture coat.
- Paint coat - optional.

The best way to achieve the desired finish is summarised below.

2. System Outline:

2.1 Substrate Preparation & Patching:

Ensure all elements to be rendered have been constructed and fixed in accordance with the project plans, specifications and the EPS sheet manufacturer's recommendations - items to be considered include:

- EPS Sheets should be fixed using the correct size, number and location of fasteners / washers recommended by the EPS manufacturer.
- All EPS sheet joints should be structurally sound with face surface levels on each side of the joint aligned.
- Internal and external corners should be 'true' and well constructed (unlikely to move or otherwise come apart).
- Identify any surface irregularities in the EPS sheet alignment and agree the method and extent of any 'make good' with the builder or project manager.
- Identify any areas of substrate that are affected by dust, loose / friable material or adhesion inhibiting materials – remove and prepare as required.

- Locate expansion joints and control joints - agree on the rendering treatment for these with the builder or project manager.
- Locate any dampcourses - these cannot be bridged by the render finish. Ensure the treatment of these is agreed with the builder or project manager.
- Agree on the treatment of floor junctions. These are probable sources of cracking and may be treated as expansion joints. Starting strips should be used.
- Mask windows, doors, roofing, flooring and other building elements to protect them.

2.2 Fix PVC Corners & Trims:

Install external corner angle beads to external corner edges, window reveals, window sills etc. by applying Euromix™ Patch Coarse into the corners of the EPS sheet faces, then press bead firmly into position and allow to dry. PVC corners or trims can also be installed with No More Nails or glue sticks. Install expansion joint beads following the above instructions.

2.3 Bedding Render Coat:

Euromix™ offers four different render products for this stage;

Product	Description
Euromix™ FP Render	A medium grained full polymer render formulated for use as a general-purpose base render.
Euromix™ NPS Base Render	A medium grained high polymer strength render formulated for use as a base render for smooth EPS panels with no grooves.
Euromix™ Cream Render	A medium – large grained multi-purpose render that requires the addition of polymer (Euromix™ Bond) in the mixing water.
Euromix™ Render	A small - medium grained multi-purpose render that requires the addition of polymer (Euromix™ Bond) in the mixing water.

Note: Before applying any coatings, ensure that the surface contains no more than 15% moisture.

Apply a first coat of your chosen Euromix™ render product to a minimum thickness of 2-3mm with hawk and trowel. While this coat is wet, trowel in a continuous layer of reinforced alkali resistant fibreglass mesh (160g /mm) taking care to leave a 100mm overlap wherever the mesh joins.

Make sure all necessary preformed expansion or movement relief joints are put in place. The renderer should make certain he has the correct instructions from the builder, architect or engineer etc. in regards to the type and placement of these joints.

2.4 Base Render Coat:

Once the bedding coat of render has been completed, prepare the selected Euromix™ render product. Apply it to a nominal thickness of 2-4mm using a trowel and straight edge to achieve a true and level finish.

It is important that coverage of at least 6mm (total thickness including bedding coat) is achieved over the EPS substrate on ground floor walls.

2.5 Finishing Render Coat:

Once the base render coat has dried (at least 24 hours in normal conditions), prepare the selected Euromix™ render product. Apply it to a nominal thickness of 2mm using a trowel and finishing to a smooth float finish.

We recommend using a Euromix™ Texture Coating finish over the rendered walls to add flexibility and a protective coating to the substrate.

2.6 Curing:

Ensure adequate protection from the drying effects of direct sunlight, wind and low humidity or a combination of these elements. Rapid drying of the surface can cause cracking and result in low strength render. Do not apply Euromix™ renders where conditions will be 35°C (especially if windy), nor where the temperature is below 5°C or where the chill factor is high. Ensure that curing render and finishing coats are protected from rain, extreme frost and other sources of excess moisture (e.g. overflowing gutters and down pipes).

2.7 Texture Coat:

Euromix™ offers four (4) different texture products for this stage;

Product	Description
Euromix™ Fine Coat	Low build texture (0.4mm aggregate).
Euromix™ Sandstone	Medium build texture (0.9mm aggregate).
Euromix™ Sand Finish	High build texture (1.1mm aggregate).
Euromix™ Quartz	Extra coarse texture (1.3mm aggregate).

All the above textures are designed to provide an attractive sparkle effect appearance that offer a durable, flexible, water repellent decorative finishing coat with excellent coverage over Euromix™ renders and other substrates. Please visit our website www.euromix.com.au for further information on our texture coatings.

Before applying the chosen texture, prime the surface with Euromix™ Acrylic Primer which should be tinted as close as possible to the colour of the texture. Allow the primer to dry for approximately 4 hours before top coating.

The texture is trowelled onto the finished render substrate to a thickness determined by the coarsest particles in the texture. Finish with a plastic finishing trowel applied in a circular motion to achieve an even textured appearance.

2.8 Paint Coats

The finished colour of the texture and the durability of the finish can be enhanced by applying two coats of any elastomeric membrane paint (tinted to the desired colour) with a roller or brush over the cured Euromix™ Texture. Ensure that single wall elements are covered in the same process ('day joints' should occur at corners or other break in line of sight). Allow 24 hours between coats.

3. Product Specific Guidelines:

The instructions for the preparation and application of each Euromix™ product detailed above can be found in the relevant Product Data Sheet. Please read these data sheets and ensure that the products are used in accordance with the recommendations.

4. Colours:

Customers choosing to have their Euromix™ Texture material tinted, must specify a 'Standard Colour' from a current colour chart from any major paint manufacturers within Australia.

5. Limitations in Use:

Euromix™ products should not be subjected to hydrostatic pressure, continual or excessive rising damp, movement, and vibration.

Euromix™ coatings are designed for use as decorative finishes; they are not meant to be used in applications where special strength, movement, hardness, or other performance characteristics are required.

Any building movement that results in visible cracking of the building elements (walling, claddings, linings, etc.), will also be sufficient to cause cracking of the decorative finish. This is the case for both potential new and pre-existing building movement cracking.

Decorative render systems such as the Euromix™ Render and Euromix™ Texture Coat Systems, will not hide cracking caused by structural movement and/or shrinkage, or expansion of substrates caused by temperature and moisture associated movement.

Euromix™ strongly recommends that Euromix™ products be applied by building contractors and trades people with the appropriate skill, knowledge and experience to carry out the relevant works.

Euromix Pty Ltd will not accept responsibility for misuse of any of its products discussed in this document.

The information contained in this product guide is typical and does not constitute a full specification, as conditions and specific requirements will vary from project to project.

All purchasers and intending users of the products covered in this document must, prior to use, assess and control the risks arising from use of the products, as they relate to their project.

For further information please contact Euromix via the contact details listed below;