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Basic rules of storage on site, handling and maintenance of StoneREX fibre cement facade boards

Storage on site:

- Pallets of boards must be stored under the roof before installation – out of rain, snow and direct sunlight. Boards must be protected from moist and dust.
- Cross ventilation of stored pallets should be provided.
- Maximum 2 pallets of top colored boards (StoneREX Premium Color, StoneREX Color, StoneREX Premium Palette) can be stacked on each other.

Basic handling rules during the installation:

- Do not pull panels across the pallet but lift up vertically from pallet.
- Boards cannot be cut under rain or snow, boards cannot be moist or wet during cutting. Cement fiber boards contain Portland cement - dust from cutting or drilling reacts with water and in moist conditions and causes permanent damages to board surface.
- For the same reason cutting must not be done too close to the mounted facade – dust could get stuck to mounted facade, react with moisture and leave permanent stains.
- If there is still some cement dust or other dirt stuck to mounted boards, they can be soaked with 10% acetic acid and water – apply it to the boards with soft cloth or sponge, leave it to react for 5-10 minutes, clean it softly with sponge and running water. Wash the boards with plenty of water, do not let them dry with acid on surface before washing. Repeat the process on difficult stains. Washing cannot be done with direct sunlight.
- Dust from cutting or drilling the boards must be removed immediately from board with compressed air, vacuum cleaner or gently with soft cloth or brush. Avoid scratching the boards.
- When carried, the boards should be held in vertical position.
- Damages and scratches should be avoided by lifting the boards off the pallet and handling them carefully during installation.
- Board edges that are cut on site and scratches must be sealed with provided color or sealer before mounting. Unsealed edges allow moisture to penetrate the board that causes color damages and cracking.
- Do not remove protective foam that is between the colored boards before mounting the boards. The surface of colored boards can be easily scratched. If scratches still happen, use provided color to cover the scratches.
- Moss and algae can be removed using 5% solution of hydrogen peroxide (H₂O₂) to eliminate all spores or other common agents available on the market suitable for colored fiber cement boards. Test a small, inconspicuous area before large and visible areas to ensure that the cleaning agent has no effect on the color.
- Cleaning of completed claddings – use running water, mild household cleaning agents if needed and soft sponge on colored surfaces. High pressure cleaning is not recommended on colored

boards. Exaggerated or wrong use of a high-pressure cleaner may damage the surface. Washing must not be done under direct sunlight.

- StoneREX Granit board (stone-chip covered boards) can be washed with high pressure cold water used at max 80 bars (minimum distance from panels 25 cm). Moss and algae removing agents can be used before washing.

Periodical Inspection

- StoneREX facade boards do not require or require very little maintenance during their life cycle. Boards are subject to natural wearing and depending on the board type the color of boards may fade a little. It is recommended to have annual inspection of the ventilation gaps, joints and fixings, in case of damages discovered they should be fixed so the lifetime of boards will be longer.

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