M-ROCK Stone MAINTENANCE FOR ALL OUR STONE AND BRICK VENEERS

CLEANING

On occasion, washing to remove surface debris or dust may be required. For dirt, dust and other particle removal:

- Gentle scrubbing of the stones surface with a dry soft bristle brush is sufficient to remove dirt or other debris.
- If necessary use a solution of liquid dish detergent and water. Make sure the detergent does not contain any bleach or other harsh chemicals. Gently scrub with soft bristle brush and detergent/water solution. Rinse well with clean water.
- If a stronger cleaning agent is necessary, try a granulated mild detergent mixed with water or mix a solution of (no more than) one part white vinegar to five parts water.
- Rinse with clean water to remove any solution that might remain on the surface.
- **DO NOT** attempt to clean M-ROCK Stone with acid cleaners, bleach, paint remover or any other type of concrete cleaner. A pressure washer can be used if on low pressure so as to not damage the stone.
- DO NOT use wire brushes on M-ROCK Stone

EFFLORESCENCE

When efflorescence occurs, as it does with many masonry products, it is usually the result of moisture migration through the masonry substrate. Once the moisture is on the masonry surface, it evaporates, depositing dissolved salts in the form of efflorescence. Efflorescence will disappear naturally over time as long as the source of the moisture is controlled or eliminated. If you wish to clean off efflorescence, use the following instructions:

• Efflorescence may be removed with a solution of 1 part white, distilled vinegar to 6 parts water. Gently scrub using a soft bristle brush and vinegar/ water solution. Rinse well with clean water.

SEALERS / PROTECTIVE TREATMENTS

Protecting M-ROCK Stone is not necessary, however, it is recommended in certain applications such as "at grade", where mud may splash onto the stone or on wood-burning fireplaces, which are exposed to smoke and soot.

- Penetrating stone sealers is recommended for most veneer stone and masonry sealing applications. This type of sealer penetrates deep into the surface, sealing out water and contaminates. Penetrating stone sealers do not form a film or change the look of the surface. These are very effective, long lasting and offer easy maintenance. This sealant only needs maintenance about every 5 years.
- A sealer, or protective treatment, will provide added protection and usually be easier to clean if the surface becomes dirty. If you decide to seal your stone veneer, use only a silane or siloxane-based penetrating, breathable masonry sealer. Please note that you should test a small area beforehand because a sealer may affect stone color.
- It is always recommended that you test any sealer you intend to use on a small area to ensure compatibility.