



DSF No. 7012

Subject: Use of EIFS Type Systems over Diamond Snap-Form ICF

Date: February 2011

The DSF ICF System consists of a uniquely designed plastic tension tie and high density Foam-Control EPS with Perform Guard® insulation. These components are used to create a lightweight rigid form, into which concrete is poured, resulting in a high strength insulated concrete wall system.

The DSF ICF System has been used widely in building foundations, above grade walls, retaining walls and other similar structures. DSF feels that EIFS products are an exceptional finish for the DSF ICF System. We have developed details which show the application of EIFS systems. We are providing these to users of the DSF ICF System, so that they have a basic understanding of the methods for applying EIFS Systems and One Coat Stucco products.

Complete installation guidelines for EIFS Systems should be obtained from the EIFS company. The recommended guidelines, as warranted by the EIFS manufacturer, are recognized as the primary source of installation information for the EIFS System. Our recommendations are general and show the two basic approaches for the application of EIFS and One Coat Stucco Systems over the DSF ICF System:

- **Polymer Based Systems** - DSF suggests that a minimum layer of 3/4" EPS be applied over the ICF System. Attachment can be made by EPS foam to EPS foam adhesive bonding methods that are recommended by the EIFS manufacturer. Attachment can also be made by screw fasteners into the Diamond Snap-Tie face, as recommended by the EIFS manufacturer. The finish system can then be applied per the EIFS manufacturer's guidelines. Expansion joints should be installed where substrate changes occur, or at a frequency recommended by the Polymer Based EIFS manufacturer.

- **Polymer Modified Systems** - DSF suggests that these systems can be applied directly to the ICF System, provided that the DSF ICF substrate has been rasped to a level plane, and that a reinforcing mesh recommended by the EIFS manufacturer is used. The reinforcing mesh should be screw applied to the face of the Diamond Snap-Tie, with the polymer modified reinforced coating then applied at a level fully embedding the mesh and covering the face of the Diamond Snap-Tie plate at a minimum thickness recommended by the Polymer Modified EIFS manufacturer. Finish coloring, when required, should be applied per the EIFS manufacturer's guidelines. Expansion joints should be installed where substrate changes occur or at a frequency recommended by the Polymer Modified EIFS manufacturer.

- **One Coat Stucco Systems** - DSF suggests that these systems can be directly applied to the DSF System provided that the DSF substrate has been rasped to a level plane, and that a reinforcing wire recommended by the one coat stucco manufacturer is used. The reinforcing wire should be screw applied to the face of the Diamond Snap-Tie with the one coat stucco then applied at a level fully embedding the wire reinforcement and covering the face of the Diamond Snap-Tie plate at a minimum thickness recommended by the one coat stucco manufacturer. Finish coloring, when required, should be applied per the one coat stucco manufacturer's guidelines. Expansion joints should be installed at a frequency recommended by the one coat stucco manufacturer.

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