

Cement Plaster Stucco Application JHA

Worked instructional example

Work and worksite

A plastering crew will mix and hand-apply a specified cement-based stucco coat to a released low-rise exterior lath system from a handed-over supported scaffold. This fictional learning example describes planned controls; it records no actual inspection or work authorization.

- Substrate, lath attachment, product selection and coat sequence are released under the project requirements.
- The scaffold has an approved distribution of workers, mortar and equipment; mixing is at a separate ground-level station.
- Spray application, EIFS foam/adhesive systems, structural substrate repair and scaffold erection are excluded.

Questions before work

- Who releases the lath and substrate before loading it with plaster?
- What dust and skin controls apply to the actual dry mix and additives?
- How much wet plaster may be staged on each platform section?

Task Hazard Control

1 Accept the substrate and access

Hazard: Loose lath, protruding wire or inadequate scaffold support can injure workers.

Control: Foreperson confirms the substrate/lath release and scaffold inspection. Identify sharp projections, approved work positions and material loading; correct unsafe access before mixing begins.

Verification: Lead checks the facade and scaffold against the handover.

Reasoning: A plaster coat cannot correct an unreleased support system.

2 Stage dry materials

Hazard: Dusty bags and heavy handling can expose lungs and strain workers.

Control: Use the actual product SDS and exposure plan to select low-dust bag handling and mixing controls. Stage manageable quantities on stable ground supports and keep deliveries clear of the mixer zone.

Verification: Mixing lead checks product identity and dust controls before opening bags.

Reasoning: Dry cementitious mix creates exposure before application.

3 Mix under controlled conditions

Hazard: Mixer parts, splash and wet cement can cause contact injury or burns.

Control: Use guarded inspected equipment, the product's mixing sequence and assessed eye and skin protection. Keep hands out of moving equipment and isolate hazardous energy before clearing or maintenance.

Verification: Assigned operator verifies guards and safe mixing positions.

Reasoning: Wet product retains cement-contact hazards after dust is controlled.

Complete the work and hand over

4 Transfer plaster to the scaffold

Hazard: Buckets can fall or overload a platform section.

Control: Use the approved transfer route and container method; control the ground receiving zone and maintain protection. Place only the planned quantity in permitted platform zones, including people and tools in the load assessment.

Verification: Scaffold/work lead checks load distribution at each transfer.

Reasoning: Wet material concentrates load where it is staged.

5 Apply from protected positions

Hazard: Reaching, sharp lath and wet plaster can expose workers to falls, cuts or burns.

Control: Apply the specified coat from the protected platform at a suitable work height. Avoid overreach and maintain task-appropriate skin/eye protection; wash contamination promptly using the site's arranged facilities.

Verification: Foreperson observes reach, material contact and platform housekeeping.

Reasoning: The work height should fit the task rather than force unsafe reaching.

6 Clean and release the facade

Hazard: Cured residue, slurry or loose offcuts can expose the next crew.

Control: Collect residue with suitable wet or HEPA methods and contain wash water under site arrangements. Clean equipment in its secured safe state and hand over curing and access restrictions.

Verification: Lead checks platform cleanup and facade limits before release.

Reasoning: Cleanup can reintroduce dust if residue is allowed to dry.

Pause and reassess

- Substrate/lath release, scaffold loading or access changes.
- Mixing guards, dust controls or washing facilities fail.
- Wind, rain or product conditions prevent controlled application.

Improve the controls

Needs improvement: Work carefully and wear PPE.

More useful: Use guarded inspected equipment, the product's mixing sequence and assessed eye and skin protection. Keep hands out of moving equipment and isolate hazardous energy before clearing or maintenance.

Needs improvement: Check that everything is ready.

More useful: Foreperson confirms the substrate/lath release and scaffold inspection. Identify sharp projections, approved work positions and material loading; correct unsafe access before mixing begins.

Decisions that change the analysis

Does the adhered stone veneer example cover stucco?

It offers cement-contact background, but stucco adds lath condition, coat sequence, mixing-to-scaffold transfer and continuous plaster application. EIFS and spraying also need separate analyses.

What must the crew record for actual use?

Identify the actual equipment and work boundaries, responsible people, applicable criteria, inspection findings and open actions. Resolve changes with affected crews and obtain required project authorization before work.

Training needs

- Product-specific dry-mix handling, dust control and wet-cement contact instruction.
- Mixer operation and scaffold-user training with permitted material loads.

Confirm applicable qualifications and actual training evidence for the people assigned. Related toolbox talks support discussion; they do not establish competence.

References and adaptation

OSHA 1926.451 Scaffold requirements

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.451>

OSHA 1926.1153 Respirable crystalline silica

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.1153>

OSHA 1910.1200 Hazard communication

<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1200>

References reviewed October 9, 2026. Use actual equipment and product instructions, project design and site requirements. This instructional example supplies no actual inspection results, signatures or work approval.