Stucco Metal Lath and Accessories Installation JHA

Worked instructional example

Work and worksite

A trained lathing crew will install specified self-furred metal lath and approved corner, termination and joint accessories over released exterior backing and water-resistive layers. Work uses a handed-over supported platform and a separated ground snip-preparation station. The completed plaster base stays exposed for its required inspection and handover before any stucco coat is applied. This fictional learning example describes planned controls; it records no actual inspection or work authorization.

- The current project and selected-system instructions identify lath, corrosion-compatible accessories/fasteners, permitted supports, laps, furring, terminations and designed movement details.
- Backing, services and the complete water-management interface are released. Accepted platform loading, sheet transfer, protected work positions and manual-snip preparation remain available.
- The stucco matrix connection is partial: plaster-base installation only. Plaster mixing/application, EIFS, new structural sheathing, powered lath cutting, powder-actuated fastening and scaffold erection are excluded.

Questions before work

- How will the crew confirm the selected lath and fastening system match the actual backing and intended stucco assembly?
- Which interfaces must remain open and correctly separated for drainage and designed movement?
- What concealed-work inspection must occur before a plaster coat hides lath laps, attachments and accessories?

Task Hazard Control

1 Release the plaster-base assembly

Hazard: Incompatible lath or an unaccepted backing can leave the future plaster unsupported or obstruct wall movement.

Control: Lathing lead matches the current assembly detail to actual backing, water-management interfaces, lath and accessories. Confirm support and corrosion-compatible fasteners, furring, laps, terminations and designed joints under the applicable current requirements. Refer missing details or substitutions before installation; an older catalog illustration is not a project specification or acceptance record.

Verification: Lead records the selected assembly and released substrate/interface requirements.

Reasoning: The supporting plaster base includes its attachments and movement/drainage details.

2 Stage sheets and prepare safe access

Hazard: Sharp bundles, springing sheets or overloaded platforms can cut workers or expose people below.

Control: Inspect identified lath/accessories and stage restrained bundles on suitable supports. Open packaging from safe positions and use planned assistance for awkward sheets. Verify the handed-over platform, loading allowance and transfer route; maintain guardrails and the falling-object boundary. Use assessed hand/eye protection for metal handling and keep exposed edges away from travel routes.

Verification: Lead checks product marks, restrained staging, platform release and usable transfer positions.

Reasoning: Thin sheets can carry sharp edges and awkward sail area despite modest weight.

3 Measure and snip at the controlled station

Hazard: Cut lath and recoiling offcuts can puncture hands or strike eyes; poor cuts can damage intended details.

Control: Mark the issued sizes and accessory positions before cutting. Support the sheet at the separated ground station and use compatible inspected manual snips with clear helper positions. Control the cut piece and curling offcut, collecting sharp waste directly into a suitable container. Hold a cut that requires an excluded powered method or removes a designed furring, joint or attachment feature.

Verification: Preparation lead verifies controlled sheet/offcut support and conformity to the released layout.

Reasoning: Preparing the sheet must not destroy the features needed for its intended support.

Complete the work and hand over

4 Position lath with prescribed furring and laps

Hazard: A loose sheet can fall or trap fingers; wrong orientation or flattened furring can impair plaster support.

Control: Transfer prepared pieces by the accepted method and restrain them from the protected work position. Install the selected lath's orientation, furring and laps under the actual assembly instructions, keeping hands out of closing sheet/fastener paths. Do not force fit by crushing self-furring features, bridging designed joints or damaging the released water-resistive layers.

Verification: Installer checks support, orientation, laps and preserved backing before final fastening.

Reasoning: The intended plaster key and support depend on the installed sheet configuration.

5 Complete compatible attachments and accessories

Hazard: Missing attachment or blocked drainage can be hidden by later plaster and cause assembly failure.

Control: Install the exact fasteners and required accessory ties/attachments in the specified sequence using the selected tool procedure. Complete corner, termination and joint details while preserving drainage paths and movement separation. Verify prescribed attachment to the identified supporting members; no universal spacing or penetration is assumed. Stop for pullout, substrate damage, incompatible metals or an unresolved termination.

Verification: Designated checker records fastening, furring, accessory alignment and interface findings before concealment.

Reasoning: A flat-looking sheet does not prove its attachment or drainage is complete.

6 Inspect and hand over the exposed base

Hazard: Sharp waste or premature coating can expose workers and hide unfinished or defective support.

Control: Check the complete accessible lath/accessory assembly against current acceptance criteria and obtain the required pre-plaster inspection. Resolve defects before concealment. Collect sharp offcuts without dropping them from the platform and secure unused sheets. Transfer inspected areas, unfinished interfaces, access/loading restrictions and any coating hold to the plaster lead; no stucco application starts under this analysis.

Verification: Lead verifies recorded base inspection, clear platforms and the receiving plaster lead's handover.

Reasoning: Keeping the base visible permits checks that a finished coat would conceal.

Pause and reassess

- Lath, backing, compatible fastening, water-management release or current joint/termination details are missing or conflicting.
- Sheet control, sharp-edge containment or platform protection/loading fails, or preparation requires an excluded powered method.
- Attachments pull out, furring/backing is damaged, movement/drainage is bridged or plaster would conceal uninspected work.

Improve the controls

Needs improvement: Fasten whatever mesh is available and flatten it tightly.

More useful: Match the actual assembly's specified lath and preserve its designed furring, laps and compatible attachment system.

Needs improvement: Cover the lath now; the plaster will hide rough details.

More useful: Inspect attachments, accessory joints and water-management interfaces while exposed, resolve defects and obtain the actual pre-plaster release.

Decisions that change the analysis

Does this repeat the existing stucco example?

That example mixes, supplies and hand-applies a coat to a lath system already released. This operation creates and inspects the metal plaster base, controlling sharp sheet preparation, furring, attachments and accessory interfaces before coating. It provides only preparatory coverage of the broad stucco activity.

What must the crew record for actual use?

Record the actual work boundary, governing documents, responsible people, acceptance criteria, control findings and unresolved actions. Communicate restrictions and obtain required project authorization; this fictional example records no completed inspection or installed-control acceptance.

Training needs

- System-specific lath/accessory instruction covering identification, manual cutting, orientation, furring, compatible fastening and concealed-work checks.
- Sharp-sheet handling, snip/offcut control, protected sheet transfer and working-platform loading without altering scaffold protection.

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

References and adaptation

AMICO metal diamond mesh and self-furred lath information
https://amicoglobal.com/metal-diamond-mesh-lath/

AMICO metal lath for stucco catalog: installation context
https://amicoglobal.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/2015-AMICO-Metal-Lath-for-Stucco-catalog-4.16.15.pdf

OSHA 1926.451 General scaffold requirements
https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1926/1926.451

References reviewed October 12, 2026. Use actual equipment and product instructions, project design and site requirements. This original draft supplies no fabricated inspection, signature or approval.