



# PALLET TAG PROGRAM LABORATORY REPORT



**PROSOCO, Inc.**

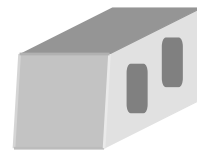
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**FOR:** Ed Nagel  
**cc:** Paul Tessier

**SUBJECT:** Best Block Company  
Littleton, CO

**DATE:** September 20, 2004

**PROJECT:** PTP 0408-11

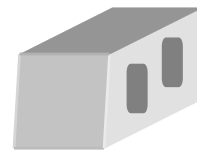
**SAMPLES SUBMITTED:** Four types of CMU's, each with a split-face, smooth-face, and ground-face

Block	Color	Name	Size
"Split-face" CMU	Light Brown	"#958"	16" x 8" x 4"
"Smooth-face" CMU	Light Brown	"#958"	
"Ground-face" CMU	Light Brown	"#958"	
"Split-face" CMU	White	"WB/Western Beige"	
"Smooth-face" CMU	White	"WB/Western Beige"	
"Ground-face" CMU	White	"WB/Western Beige"	
"Split-face" CMU	Brown	"LB/Lakewood Brown"	
"Smooth-face" CMU	Brown	"LB/Lakewood Brown"	
"Ground-face" CMU	Brown	"LB/Lakewood Brown"	
"Split-face" CMU	Rose	"SR/Snake River"	
"Smooth-face" CMU	Rose	"SR/Snake River"	
"Ground-face" CMU	Rose	"SR/Snake River"	

Submitted by: Ed Nagel



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## PURPOSE OF TESTING:

Four types of CMU's each with a split-face, smooth-face, and ground-face, all with large, small and fine aggregate were submitted for testing using PROSOCO's new construction cleaning, water repellent products, graffiti control, and color enhancement products.

**A. Cleaning Concrete Masonry Units:** Sure Klean® Custom Masonry Cleaner and Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner were evaluated for removal of laboratory applied mortar.

To simulate new construction soiling, all concrete masonry units (CMU's) are placed on a bench with finished surface facing upward. Hollow cylinders measuring 50 mm in diameter and 75 mm tall are positioned on top of each CMU and filled with a wet mixture of Ash Grove® Type S mortar. The wet, mortar-filled cylinder is allowed to remain in contact with the CMU for 10 minutes before removal.

Heavy deposits of mortar are removed with dry scraping after 24 hours. Prepared cleaning solutions are then evaluated for their effectiveness in removing residual Ash Grove® Type S mortar staining after 3 days, 7 days, and 14 days of curing\*.

**B. Color Uniformity Testing\*** - Sure Klean® Custom Masonry Cleaner and Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner were evaluated at various dilutions to determine the optimal concentration of cleaner that leaves the external surface looking most like the natural through-body color of the CMU. Color uniformity was evaluated by comparing aggregate exposure and surface pigment alternation/removal of each cleaned surface compared to the natural through-body color of the CMU.

Aggregate Exposure is the visual examination comparing aggregate exposure of the interior, through-body section of CMU to surfaces cleaned with selected product(s) at given dilutions.

Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal\* is the visual examination comparing the pigmentation of the interior, through-body section of the CMU to surfaces cleaned with selected product(s) at given dilutions.

The following is the scale used for reporting results of both categories:

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 0 – <b>Worst</b> match to through-body | 3 – <b>Good</b> match to through-body |
| 1 – <b>Poor</b> match to through-body  | 4 – <b>Best</b> match to through-body |
| 2 – <b>Fair</b> match to through-body  |                                       |

## **NOTE: When cleaning integrally colored CMU.**

Integrally colored concrete masonry units (CMU's) frequently have high amounts of pigments concentrated on the surface of the cured concrete unit. Variation of surface pigment concentrations from one CMU to the next creates a blotchy appearance in the completed wall. Allowed to remain on the surface of the CMU, the weakly bound pigment will weather and streak, further detracting from the appearance of the completed CMU wall.

In addition to removing excess mortar and construction related soiling, the goal of any cleaning operation undertaken on integrally colored CMU should include removal of unnaturally high concentrations of surface pigment. By revealing the natural through-body color on the integrally colored unit, the overall color uniformity and weathering resistance of the completed CMU wall is improved.



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**C. Protective Water Repellents** – Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control and Sure Klean® Weather Seal Siloxane WB Concentrate (1:9) were evaluated for their ability to provide water repellency to the submitted samples.

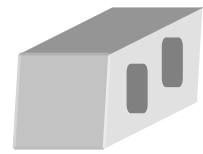
**D. Graffiti Control** – Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control was evaluated for its ability to control graffiti on the submitted samples. Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper and Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe were evaluated for their ability to remove graffiti from the submitted samples.

**E. Color Enhancement** – Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer was evaluated for its ability to provide color and sheen enhancement on the submitted ground-face samples.

**F. Adverse Effects:** Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner was evaluated to determine if it creates any adverse effects when used on the surface of the ground-face CMU's after treatment with Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer.



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## PRODUCTS EVALUATED FOR CLEANING AND COLOR UNIFORMITY

Block Type	Product	Dilution
All Split-face and Smooth-face CMU's	Sure Klean® Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2, 1:4, 1:6
All Submitted CMU's	Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2, 1:3

## WATER REPELLENT PRODUCTS EVALUATED

Block Type	Product	Dilution
All Submitted CMU's	Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Concentrate
	Sure Klean® Weather Seal Siloxane WB Concentrate	1:9

## GRAFFITI CONTROL PRODUCTS EVALUATED

Block Type	Product	Dilution
All Submitted CMU's	Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Concentrate

## GRAFFITI REMOVAL PRODUCTS EVALUATED

Block Type	Product
All Submitted CMU's	Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper
	Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe

## COLOR ENHANCEMENT AND SHEEN PRODUCTS EVALUATED

Block Type	Product
All Ground-face CMU's	Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer

## ADVERSE EFFECTS PRODUCTS EVALUATED

Block Type	Product	Dilution
All Ground-face CMU's Treated With Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer	Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3



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## SECTION A – CLEANING INTEGRALLY COLORED CMU's

### DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCTS EVALUATED

These cleaning trials were conducted to determine the optimal cleaning/cure time combination.

**Sure Klean® Custom Masonry Cleaner** – A general purpose, concentrated acidic cleaner for most custom masonry and colored concrete. Removes concrete splashes, excess mortar, mud, heavy efflorescence and surface soiling, leaving the masonry clean and uniform with no acid burning or streaking. Liquid concentrate for dilution with 2-6 parts water. Apply by brush or low-pressure spray.

**Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner** – A general purpose, non-etching acidic cleaner for most custom masonry and colored concrete. Removes rust, mud, oil, atmospheric dirt, mortar smears and other stains without altering the surface texture, while also adding depth to colors and brightening white matrices and exposed aggregate. Liquid concentrate for dilution with 2-3 parts water. Apply by brush or low-pressure spray.

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### TEST METHOD – Cleaning

Dilution ratios refer to mixtures of parts concentrated cleaner : parts fresh water. Chemical cleaners were evaluated using the following procedure:

1. Pre-wet the surface with water.
2. Apply each cleaner at the appropriate dilutions.
3. Allow appropriate dwell time for each cleaner:

Custom Masonry Cleaner .....	3 minutes
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner .....	3-5 minutes
4. Reapply the products and moderately agitate with a brush.
5. Pressure rinse thoroughly.\*
6. Allow the surface to dry for at least 18 hours and visually examine.

\*Pressure rinsing was conducted at approximately 1300 psi with a warm water flow rate of 1.9 gallons per minute.



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## TEST RESULTS – Cleaning

### % Removal of Type S Mortar

“#958 Split-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	95%	95%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	95%	90%	99%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	85%	95%	95%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	85%	85%	90%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	85%	85%	90%
“#958 Smooth-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	99%	99%	99%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	99%	99%	99%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	95%	99%	99%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	99%	95%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	95%	99%	95%
“#958 Ground-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	100%	100%	99%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	100%	100%	99%
“WB/Western Beige Split-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	99%	95%	95%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	95%	95%	95%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	95%	95%	90%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	85%	80%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	95%	85%	80%
“WB/Western Beige Smooth-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	95%	95%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	95%	95%	90%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	95%	95%	90%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	90%	95%	95%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	90%	95%	90%
“WB/Western Beige Ground-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	100%	100%	99%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	100%	100%	99%



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## TEST RESULTS – Cleaning

### % Removal of Type S Mortar

“LB/Lakewood Brown Split-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	99%	99%	90%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	99%	99%	90%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	95%	99%	90%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	95%	90%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	90%	90%	90%
“LB/Lakewood Brown Smooth-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	95%	99%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	95%	95%	99%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	95%	95%	95%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	95%	95%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	95%	95%	90%
“LB/Lakewood Brown Ground-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	99%	99%	99%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	99%	99%	99%
“SR/Snake River Split-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	95%	95%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	90%	95%	90%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	90%	90%	90%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	85%	85%	85%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	80%	85%	85%
“SR/Snake River Smooth-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	95%	99%	99%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	90%	99%	99%
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	90%	99%	99%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	99%	95%	95%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	99%	95%	95%
“SR/Snake River Ground-face” CMU				
Product	Dilution	3 day	7 day	14 day
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	100%	100%	100%
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	100%	100%	100%





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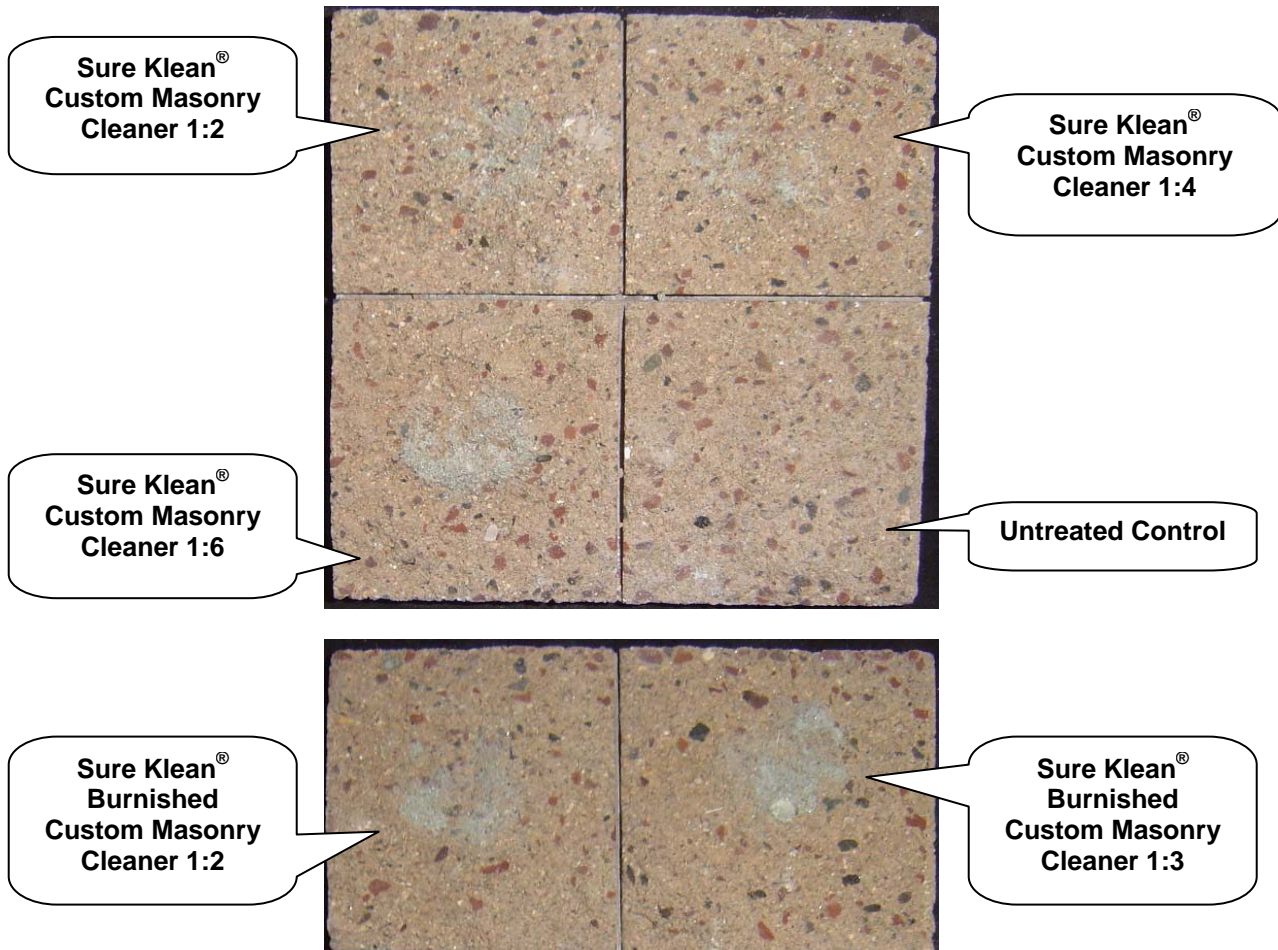


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## PHOTOGRAPHS- Cleaning

### "#958 Split-face" CMU; 3 Day Cleaning





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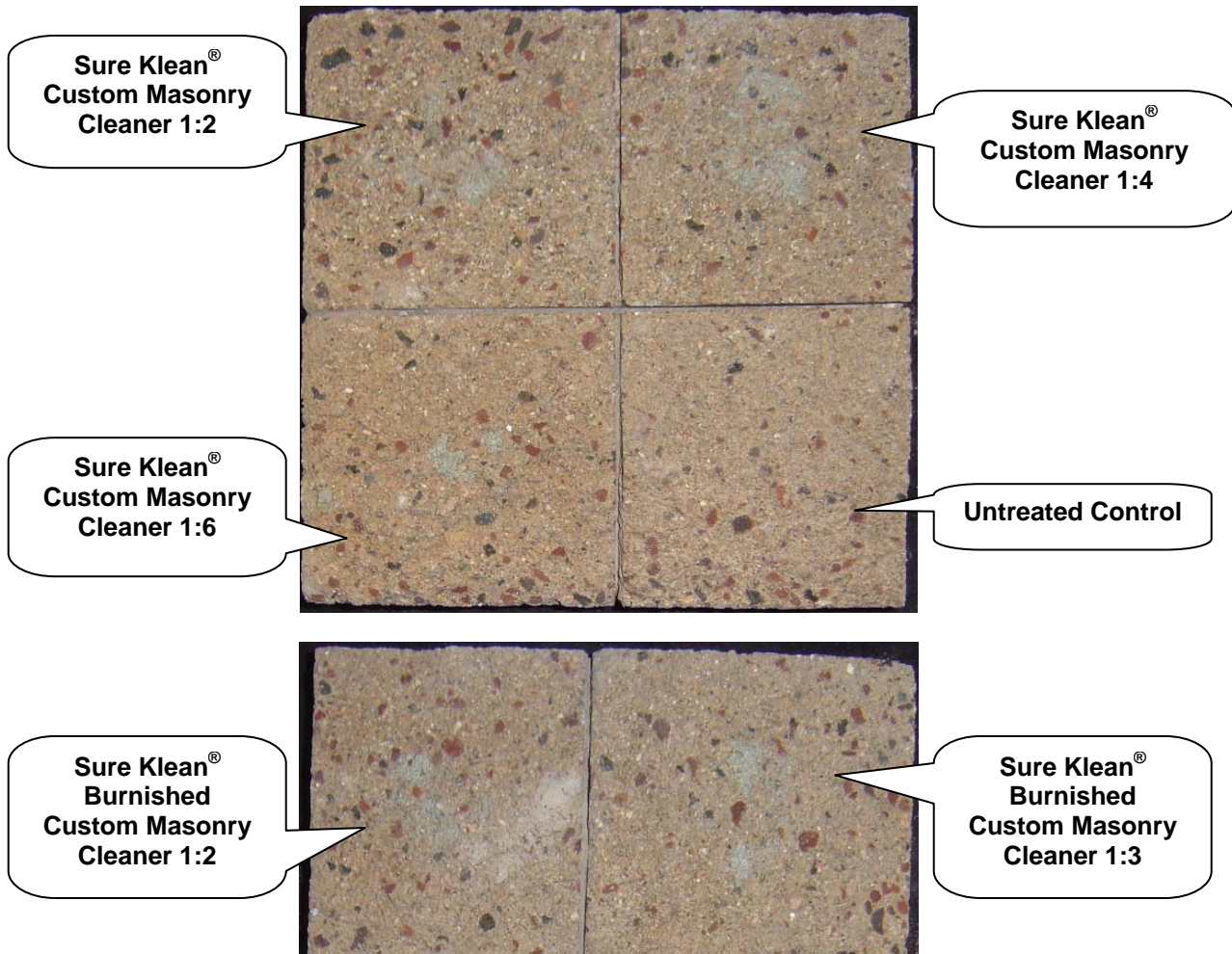


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## PHOTOGRAPHS- Cleaning

### "#958 Split-face" CMU; 7 Day Cleaning





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## PHOTOGRAPHS- Cleaning

**"#958 Split-face" CMU; 14 Day Cleaning**

**Sure Klean®  
Custom Masonry  
Cleaner 1:2**

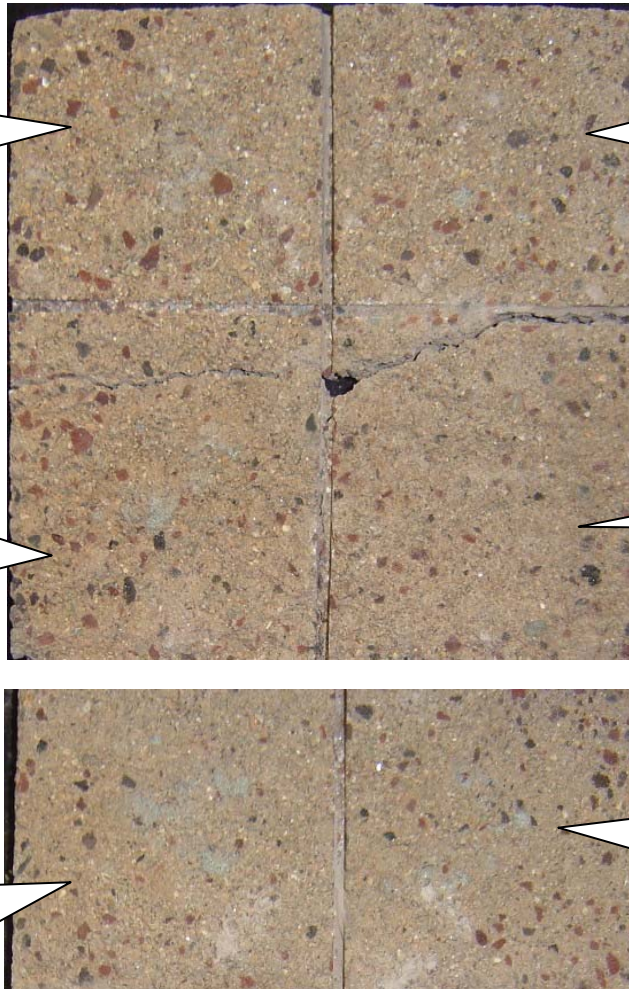
**Sure Klean®  
Custom Masonry  
Cleaner 1:4**

**Sure Klean®  
Custom Masonry  
Cleaner 1:6**

**Untreated Control**

**Sure Klean®  
Burnished  
Custom Masonry  
Cleaner 1:2**

**Sure Klean®  
Burnished  
Custom Masonry  
Cleaner 1:3**





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## CONCLUSIONS – Cleaning

Based on the test data, all of the submitted block samples were efficiently cleaned with a dilution of the selected PROSOCO Inc. cleaning product. Use higher concentrations and surface agitation to maximize aggregate exposure. Use low concentration and surface agitation to minimize aggregate exposure.

All dilutions of Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Custom Masonry Cleaner and Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner tested affected the substrate in a similar manner, removing slight to heavy concentrations of pigmented matrix from the blocks, exposing small and large aggregate, and enhancing the natural appearance of the integrally colored concrete masonry unit.

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## RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS AND DILUTIONS – CLEANING

Recommendations for cleaning for each type of CMU submitted by Best Block Company, Littleton, CO, are provided in the chart below. Recommendations are based on the optimum dilution for complete removal of mortar.

Block	New Construction Cleaning (Type S mortar, 14 day)
All Split-face and Smooth-face CMU's	Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Custom Masonry Cleaner (1:2)
All Ground-face CMU's	Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner (1:3)

The most appropriate cleaner and dilution should be determined on the specific job-site, and will be dependent primarily on the nature and severity of soiling present at that location. Pressure rinsing equipment providing at least 400 psi at 4-6 gpm delivered through a 15-40 degree fan spray often produces best cleaning results.

Apply all products in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation provided on container labels and product data sheets. On-site testing should be conducted to determine the most appropriate cleaning product and procedures for a particular project. See product literature for additional application and product information.





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## **SECTION B – COLOR UNIFORMITY:**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCTS EVALUATED – Color Uniformity:**

**Sure Klean® Custom Masonry Cleaner** – A general purpose, concentrated acidic cleaner for most custom masonry and colored concrete. Removes concrete splashes, excess mortar, mud, heavy efflorescence and surface soiling, leaving the masonry clean and uniform with no acid burning or streaking. Liquid concentrate for dilution with 2-6 parts water. Apply by brush or low-pressure spray.

**Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner** – A general purpose, non-etching acidic cleaner for most custom masonry and colored concrete. Removes rust, mud, oil, atmospheric dirt, mortar smears and other stains without altering the surface texture, while also adding depth to colors and brightening white matrices and exposed aggregate. Liquid concentrate for dilution with 2-3 parts water. Apply by brush or low-pressure spray.

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### **TEST METHOD – Color Uniformity Testing:**

Dilution ratios refer to mixtures of parts concentrated cleaner: parts fresh water. Chemical cleaners were evaluated using the following procedure:

1. Prewet the surface with water.
2. Apply each cleaner at the appropriate dilutions.
3. Allow appropriate dwell time, as specified.

Custom Masonry Cleaner.....	3 minutes
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner .....	3-5 minutes
4. Reapply the products and moderately agitate with a brush.
5. Pressure rinse thoroughly.\*
6. Allow the sample to dry for at least 18 hours and visually examine.
7. Break the sample in half and compare the through-body surfaces to the cleaned surfaces for the best match.

\*Pressure rinsing was conducted at approximately 1300 psi with a warm water flow rate of 1.9 gallons per minute.



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## TEST RESULTS – Color Uniformity

<b>Substrate: Split-face CMU</b>		<b>Pigment Color: “#958”</b>	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate: Smooth-face CMU</b>		<b>Pigment Color: “#958”</b>	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate: Ground-face CMU</b>		<b>Pigment Color: “#958”</b>	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate: Split-face CMU</b>		<b>Pigment Color: “W/B Western Beige”</b>	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate: Smooth-face CMU</b>		<b>Pigment Color: “W/B Western Beige”</b>	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4

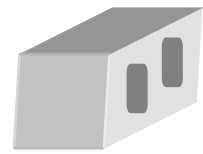
Scale used for reporting results of both categories

0 – **Worst** match to through-body  
1 – **Poor** match to through-body  
2 – **Fair** match to through-body

3 – **Good** match to through-body  
4 – **Best** match to through-body



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## TEST RESULTS – Color Uniformity

<b>Substrate:</b> Ground-face CMU		<b>Pigment Color:</b> “W/B Western Beige”	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate:</b> Split-face CMU		<b>Pigment Color:</b> “LB/Lakewood Brown”	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate:</b> Smooth-face CMU		<b>Pigment Color:</b> “LB/Lakewood Brown”	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate:</b> Ground-face CMU		<b>Pigment Color:</b> “LB/Lakewood Brown”	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate:</b> Split-face CMU		<b>Pigment Color:</b> “SR/Snake River”	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4

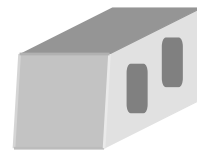
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4 – **Best** match to through-body



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<b>Substrate:</b> Smooth-face CMU		<b>Pigment Color:</b> "SR/Snake River"	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:4	4	4
Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:6	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4
<b>Substrate:</b> Ground-face CMU		<b>Pigment Color:</b> "SR/Snake River"	
Product	Dilution	Aggregate Exposure	Surface Pigment Alteration/Removal
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:2	4	4
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	4	4

Scale used for reporting results of both categories

0 – **Worst** match to through-body  
1 – **Poor** match to through-body  
2 – **Fair** match to through-body

3 – **Good** match to through-body  
4 – **Best** match to through-body





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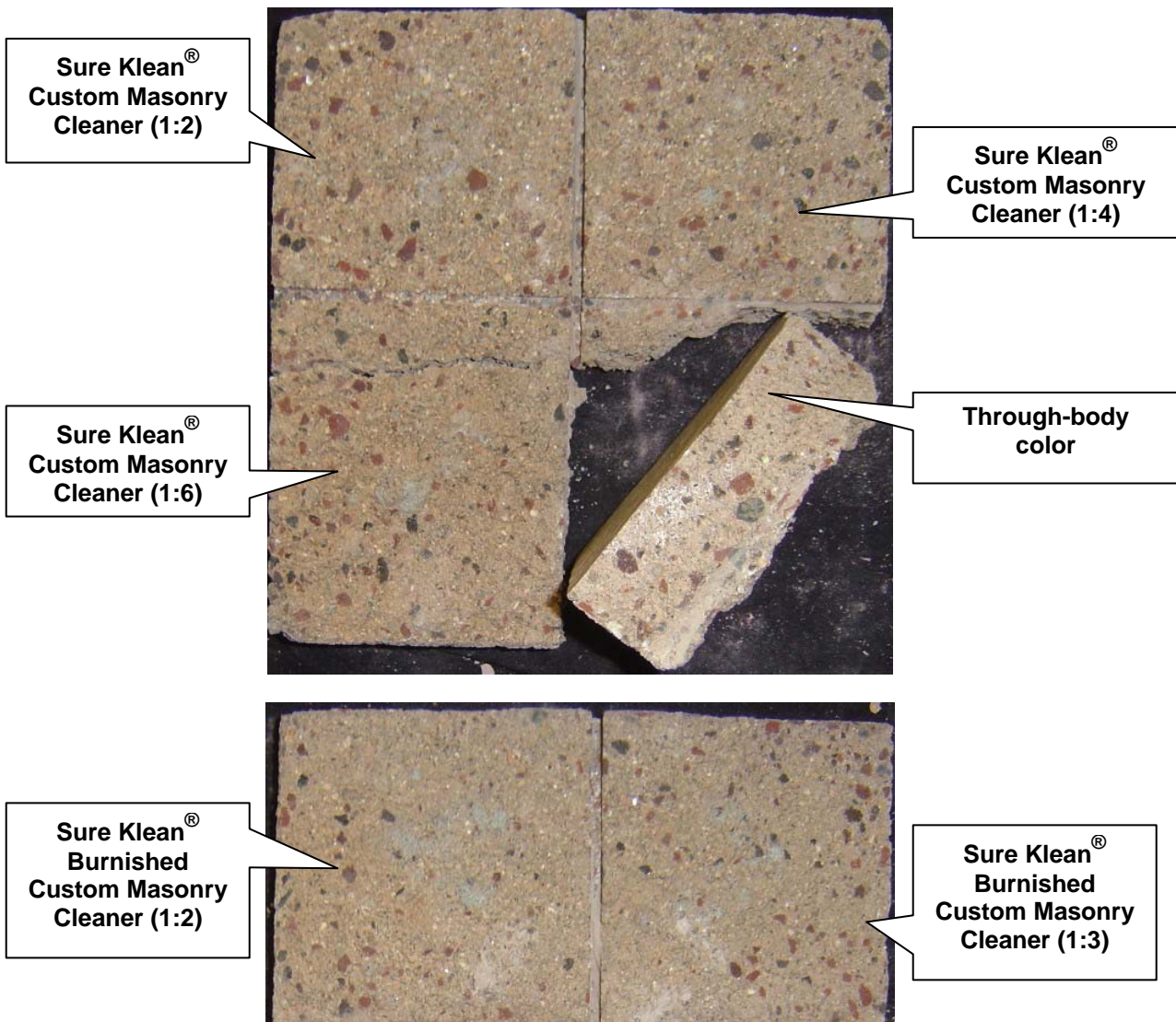
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## PHOTOGRAPHS – Color Uniformity

**“#958 Split-face” CMU; Through-body**





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## CONCLUSIONS: COLOR UNIFORMITY:

All dilutions of Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Custom Masonry Cleaner and Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner tested affected the substrate in a similar manner. Higher concentrations of cleaner removed moderate to heavy concentrations of pigmented matrix, exposing small and large aggregate. Lower concentrations of cleaner removed slight to moderate concentrations of pigmented matrix, exposing small and large aggregate. All dilutions enhanced the natural appearance of the integrally colored CMU.

---

## RECOMMENDATIONS – COLOR UNIFORMITY

Recommendations for color uniformity for each type of CMU submitted by Best Block Company, Littleton, CO, are provided in the chart below. Recommendations are based on the optimum dilution that provides the best color uniformity.

Block	Color Uniformity
All Split-face and Smooth-face CMU's	Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Custom Masonry Cleaner (1:2)
All Ground-face CMU's	Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner (1:3)

The most appropriate cleaner and dilution should be determined on the specific job-site, and will be dependent primarily on the nature and severity of soiling present at that location. Pressure rinsing equipment providing at least 400 psi at 4-6 gpm delivered through a 15-40 degree fan spray often produces best cleaning results.

Apply all products in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation provided on container labels and product data sheets. On-site testing should be conducted to determine the most appropriate cleaning product and procedures for a particular project. See product literature for additional application and product information.



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## **SECTION C – PROTECTIVE WATER REPELLENTS:**

The testing described below evaluates the suitability of water repellent treatments.

The surface treatments evaluated were selected for their suitability for application based on the following selection criteria:

1. Weatherproofing properties
2. Color change
3. Ease of application

---

## **DESCRIPTIONS OF PRODUCTS EVALUATED – Protective Water Repellents:**

**Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Weather Seal Blok-Guard<sup>®</sup> & Graffiti Control** – A clear, solvent-based silicone elastomer formulated to weatherproof custom masonry units, cast stone, architectural concrete block, precast concrete, wood and porous masonry. Weather Seal Blok-Guard<sup>®</sup> & Graffiti Control penetrates and fills pores to prevent water penetration through exterior walls exposed to normal weathering.

**Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Weather Seal Siloxane WB Concentrate** – A concentrated water repellent designed for dilution with fresh water at the jobsite. This solvent-free blend of siloxanes and oligomeric alkoxy-siloxanes mixes easily with water to produce a penetrating water repellent ideal for application to dense or porous masonry surfaces. An effective alternative to conventional solvent-based silanes or siloxanes, Siloxane WB penetrates and chemically bonds deep within the masonry substrate to provide long-lasting protection against water-related staining or deterioration. Will not darken, produce a surface film or impair the natural breathing characteristics of treated surfaces.

---

## **SAMPLE PREPARATION – Protective Water Repellents:**

The submitted blocks were scored, allowed to dry, and to reabsorb atmospheric humidity for 24 hours prior to treatment. The treatment method consisted of a wet-on-wet brush application. All treatments were allowed to cure at least 3 days prior to testing.

---

## **TEST METHODS – Protective Water Repellents:**

### **Water Absorption Tube Test: RILEM II.4, 60 mph, 20 Minutes**

The water absorption tube test simulating wind driven rain conditions was performed. This test simulates 60 mile per hour wind driven rain conditions for a period of 20 minutes. See Technical Services TECH Note RILEM Tube Test Procedures.



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## TEST RESULTS – Protective Water Repellents:

### Water Absorption Tube Test: RILEM II.4, 60 mph, 20 Minutes

RESULTS	
“#958 Split-face” CMU	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	58 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph
“#958 Smooth-face” CMU	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	59 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph
“#958 Ground-face” CMU	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	60 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph
“WB/Western Beige Split-face” CMU	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	57 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	56 mph
“WB/Western Beige Smooth-face” CMU	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	60 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph
“WB/Western Beige Ground-face” CMU	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	60 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph
“LB/Lakewood Brown Split-face” CMU	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	59 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	59 mph



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**TEST RESULTS – Protective Water Repellents:**

**Water Absorption Tube Test: RILEM II.4, 60 mph, 20 Minutes**

<b>RESULTS</b>	
<b>"LB/Lakewood Brown Smooth-face" CMU</b>	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	58 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph
<b>"LB/Lakewood Brown Ground-face" CMU</b>	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	58 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	59 mph
<b>"SR/Snake River Split-face" CMU</b>	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	60 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph
<b>"SR/Snake River Smooth-face" CMU</b>	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	60 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	59 mph
<b>"SR/Snake River Ground-face" CMU</b>	
Untreated Control	< 40 mph
Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	60 mph
Siloxane WB 1:9	60 mph



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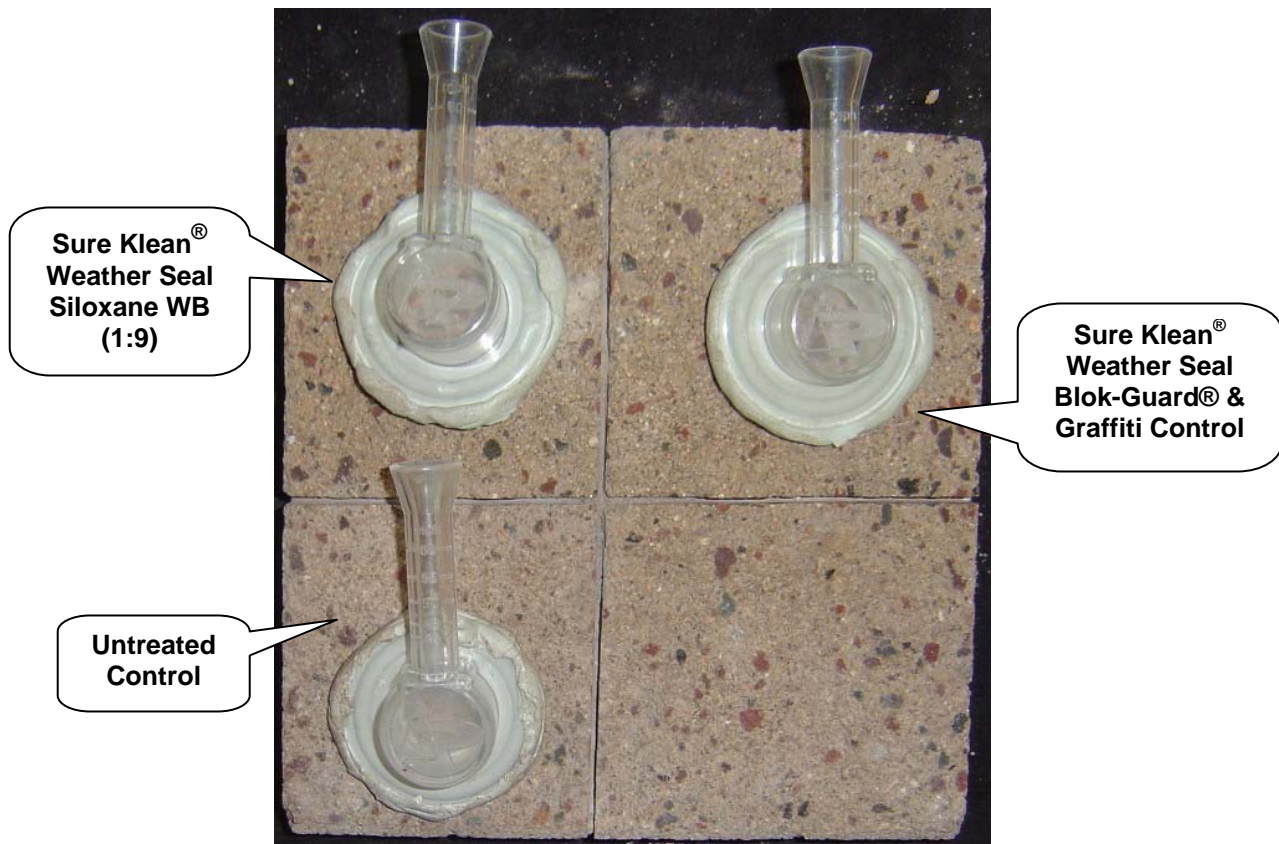


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## PHOTOGRAPHS- Protective Water Repellents

### "#958 Split-face" CMU - RILEM Testing





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## CONCLUSIONS - Protective Water Repellents

Based upon laboratory evaluations, both Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Weather Seal Blok-Guard<sup>®</sup> & Graffiti Control and Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Weather Seal Siloxane WB Concentrate diluted with nine parts water provided excellent water repellency to all submitted samples. In addition, Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Weather Seal Blok-Guard<sup>®</sup> & Graffiti Control enhanced the appearance of each CMU.

---

## RECOMMENDATIONS - PROTECTIVE WATER REPELLENTS

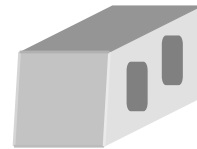
Recommendations for water repellency treatment for each type of CMU submitted by Best Block Company, Littleton, CO, are provided in the chart below. Recommendations are based on the treatment that proved most effective and can provide water repellency on all types submitted.

Block Type	Water Repellents
All Submitted CMU's	Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Weather Seal Blok-Guard <sup>®</sup> & Graffiti Control OR Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Weather Seal Siloxane WB Concentrate 1:9

Apply all products in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation provided on container labels and product data sheets. On-site testing should be conducted to determine the most appropriate water repellent product and procedures for a particular project. See product literature for additional application and product information.



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## **SECTION D – GRAFFITI CONTROL**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCTS EVALUATED**

These trials were conducted to determine the optimal graffiti control treatment.

#### **Graffiti Control Treatments**

**Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control** – A clear, solvent-based silicone elastomer formulated to weatherproof concrete block and other porous masonry material. Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control protects masonry surfaces from repeated graffiti attacks without altering the natural appearance.

#### **Products Evaluated for Graffiti Removal**

**Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe** – An easy-to-use graffiti remover that does not contain methanol, methylene chloride or other “halogenated” solvents prohibited on many projects. Graffiti Wipe removes a variety of graffiti stains from most smooth masonry, wood and metal surfaces.

**Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper** – A thixotropic stripping compound formulated specifically for removal of high strength paints and coatings such as epoxies, polyurethanes, and floor enamels. Additionally, Fast Acting Stripper dissolves most spray paints, marking pens, lacquers and other graffiti.

#### **Graffiti Agents**

Interior/Exterior Spray Paint (Red)  
Permanent Marker (Green)  
Permanent Marker (Red)  
Permanent Marker (Black)





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## **SAMPLE PREPARATION – Graffiti Control**

This evaluation compares the effectiveness in preventing staining of enamel spray paint and permanent markers.

Sections of the concrete samples were treated with one coat of Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control, in accordance with PROSOCO, Inc.'s Product Guide application instructions and then allowed to cure for at least one day. At the end of the one-day cure period, a visual adverse effects evaluation was made and then the graffiti agents were applied to the substrates.

Spray paint and markers were applied as graffiti agents to all treated surfaces no sooner than one day following application of Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control. Removal of the graffiti agents was attempted 24 hours after application of the graffiti agents, using Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe and Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper.

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## **TEST METHOD – Graffiti Control**

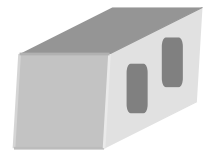
Chemical cleaners were evaluated using the following procedure:

1. Apply the product to a dry surface, soiled with graffiti.
2. Allow appropriate dwell time:  
    Graffiti Wipe..... 5 minutes  
    Fast Acting Stripper ..... 20 minutes
3. Pressure rinse thoroughly until water runs clear. \*
4. Allow the surface to dry thoroughly and visually examine to determine effectiveness.

\* Pressure rinsing was conducted at approximately 1300 psi with a warm water flow rate of 1.9 gallons per minute.



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## TEST RESULTS – Graffiti Control

“#958 Split-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	85%	85%	30%	30%	58%
Graffiti Wipe	85%	75%	30%	60%	63%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	100%	95%	95%	95%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	100%	90%	90%	94%
“#958 Smooth-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	85%	95%	80%	70%	83%
Graffiti Wipe	90%	95%	80%	80%	86%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	95%	95%	90%	93%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	95%	95%	90%	94%
“#958 Ground-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	90%	70%	60%	78%
Graffiti Wipe	90%	90%	70%	80%	83%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	100%	95%	100%	96%
Graffiti Wipe	100%	100%	95%	100%	99%
“WB/Western Beige Split-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	70%	30%	30%	55%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	70%	30%	30%	56%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	95%	95%	90%	90%	93%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	90%	90%	90%	91%



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## TEST RESULTS – Graffiti Control

“WB/Western Beige Smooth-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	80%	85%	85%	80%	83%
Graffiti Wipe	85%	85%	85%	80%	84%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	85%	95%	95%	95%	93%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	95%	95%	95%	95%
“WB/Western Beige Ground-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	85%	85%	80%	80%	83%
Graffiti Wipe	90%	85%	80%	80%	84%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	98%	95%	98%	95%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	98%	95%	98%	97%
“LB/Lakewood Brown Split-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	95%	60%	70%	79%
Graffiti Wipe	90%	90%	60%	70%	78%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	95%	100%	95%	98%	97%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	100%	95%	98%	97%
“LB/Lakewood Brown Smooth-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	95%	95%	95%	94%
Graffiti Wipe	90%	95%	95%	95%	94%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	95%	100%	99%	100%	99%
Graffiti Wipe	100%	100%	99%	100%	100%



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## TEST RESULTS – Graffiti Control

“LB/Lakewood Brown Ground-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	95%	100%	100%	95%	98%
Graffiti Wipe	100%	100%	100%	98%	100%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	95%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Graffiti Wipe	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
“SR/Snake River Split-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	85%	90%	30%	40%	61%
Graffiti Wipe	85%	80%	30%	45%	60%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	100%	95%	95%	95%
Graffiti Wipe	90%	100%	95%	95%	95%
“SR/Snake River Smooth-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	95%	75%	75%	84%
Graffiti Wipe	90%	90%	75%	75%	83%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	99%	95%	95%	95%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	99%	95%	95%	96%
“SR/Snake River Ground-face” CMU					
Untreated Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	90%	95%	90%	90%	91%
Graffiti Wipe	95%	90%	90%	95%	93%
Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Red Paint	Black Marker	Green Marker	Red Marker	% Avg. Removal
Fast Acting Stripper	95%	100%	100%	100%	99%
Graffiti Wipe	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%



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## PHOTOGRAPHS – Graffiti Control

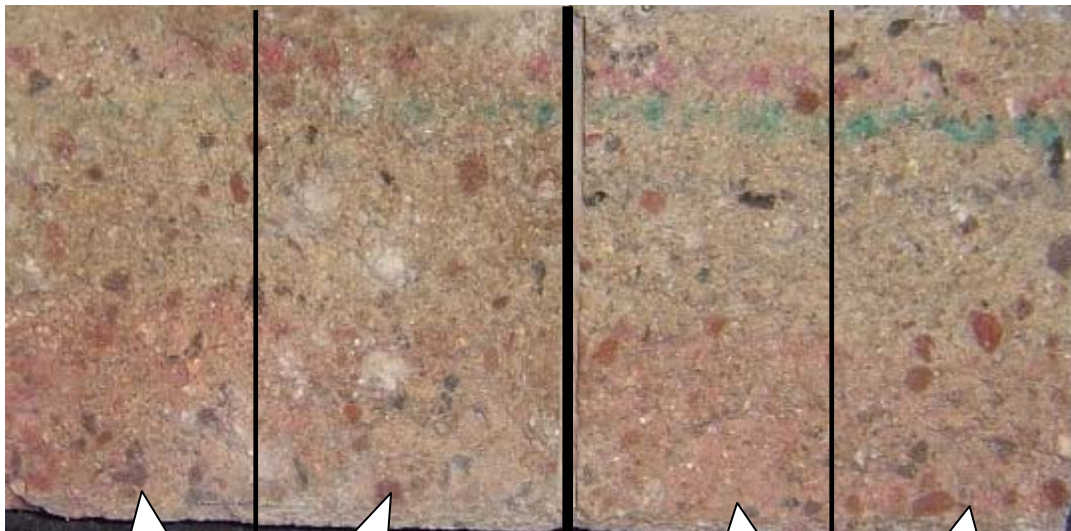
“#958 Split-face” CMU Before Graffiti Removal



Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control

Untreated Control

“#958 Split-face” CMU After Graffiti Removal



Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper

Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe

Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper

Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe



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## CONCLUSIONS – Graffiti Control

Based upon laboratory evaluations, graffiti removal was improved when the submitted samples were treated with Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control prior to graffiti application. In addition, Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control enhanced the appearance of the CMU's.

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## RECOMMENDATIONS – GRAFFITI CONTROL

Recommendations for graffiti control treatment for each type of CMU submitted by Best Block Company, Littleton, CO, are provided in the chart below. Recommendations are based on the treatment that proved most effective for providing graffiti repellency and the product that was most effective at removing the graffiti on all types submitted.

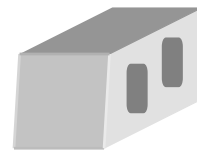
Block Type	Graffiti Repellents	Graffiti Removers
All Submitted CMU's	Sure Klean® Weather Seal Blok-Guard® & Graffiti Control	Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper OR Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe

Apply all products in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation provided on container labels and product data sheets. Because the severity of graffiti varies from location to location, on-site testing should be conducted to determine the most appropriate graffiti control product and procedure for a particular project.

For the most severe graffiti cases Sure Klean® Fast Acting Stripper is recommended for job-site testing. For mild graffiti cases, Defacer Eraser® Graffiti Wipe is recommended for job-site testing. See product literature for additional application and product information.



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## **SECTION E - COLOR ENHANCEMENT AND SHEEN**

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCTS EVALUATED - Color Enhancement and Sheen:**

**Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer-** A water-based acrylic emulsion for protecting and enhancing the finish of burnished concrete block. Applied with brush, roller, or low-pressure sprayer, this milky-white liquid dries quickly to a tightly adhered glossy finish. Burnished Block Sealer provides resistance to scrapes and scuffs of transport and facilitates the removal of mortar smears and other construction soiling. Following construction cleaning, a treatment of Burnished Block Sealer enhances the appearance of burnished block and makes maintenance cleaning easier.

---

### **TEST METHOD - COLOR ENHANCEMENT AND SHEEN**

Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer was applied in a thin, even brush application, and the samples were allowed to cure for 24 hours. A visual evaluation was then conducted comparing the treated area to an untreated area.



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## TEST RESULTS- COLOR ENHANCEMENT AND SHEEN

Ground-face CMU	Color Enhancement	Sheen
"#958"	1	2
"WB/Western Beige"	1	2
"LB/Lakewood Brown"	1	2
"SR/Snake River"	1	2

Scale: 0- No enhancement; dull  
1- Slight Enhancement  
2- Moderate Enhancement  
3- Significant Enhancement

Scale: 0- No sheen; dull  
1- Slight Sheen  
2- Moderate Sheen  
3- Significant Sheen

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## PHOTOGRAPHS- Color Enhancement and Sheen

**"#958 Ground-face" CMU**



**Sure Klean® Burnished  
Block Sealer**

**Untreated Control**





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## RECOMMENDATIONS - Color Enhancement

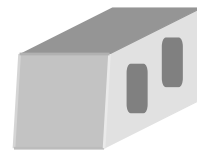
Recommendations for color enhancement for each type of ground-face CMU submitted are provided in the chart below. Recommendations are based on the treatment that proved most effective in providing color enhancement and sheen to the ground-face CMU's.

Block Type	Color Enhancement and Sheen
All Ground-face CMU's	Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer

Apply all products in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation provided on container labels and product data sheets. On-site testing should be conducted to determine the most appropriate product and procedures for a particular project. See product literature for additional application and product information.



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## **SECTION F – ADVERSE EFFECTS**

Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner was evaluated to determine if it creates any adverse effects when used on the surface of the ground-face CMU's after treatment with Sure Klean® Burnished Block Sealer.

### **DESCRIPTION OF PRODUCTS EVALUATED – Adverse Effects:**

**Sure Klean® Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner** – A general purpose, non-etching acidic cleaner for most custom masonry and colored concrete. Removes rust, mud, oil, atmospheric dirt, mortar smears and other stains without altering the surface texture, while also adding depth to colors and brightening white matrices and exposed aggregate. Liquid concentrate for dilution with 2-3 parts water. Apply by brush or low-pressure spray.

### **TEST METHOD – Cleaning**

Dilution ratios refer to mixtures of parts concentrated cleaner : parts fresh water. Chemical cleaners were evaluated using the following procedure:

1. Prewet the surface with water.
2. Apply the cleaner at the appropriate dilutions.
3. Allow appropriate dwell time for each cleaner:  
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner ..... 3 minutes
4. Reapply the product and moderately agitate with a brush.
5. Pressure rinse thoroughly.\*
6. Allow the surface to dry for at least 18 hours and visually examine.

\*Pressure rinsing was conducted at approximately 1300 psi with a warm water flow rate of 1.9 gallons per minute.



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## TEST RESULTS- ADVERSE EFFECTS

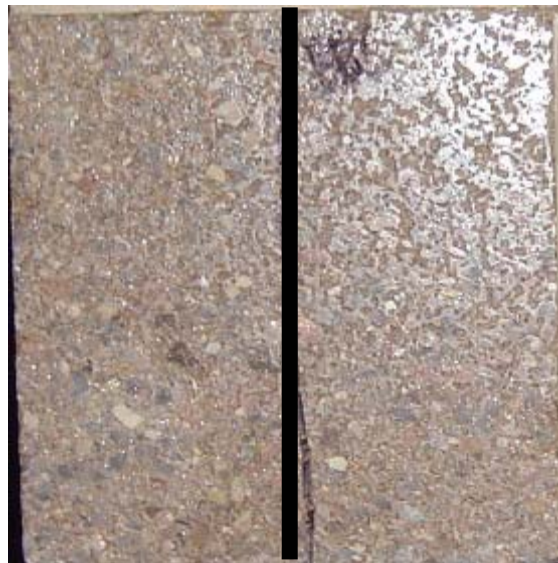
"958"		
Product	Dilution	Adverse Effects?
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	No adverse effects
"WB/Western Beige"		
Product	Dilution	Adverse Effects?
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	No adverse effects
"LB/Lakewood Brown"		
Product	Dilution	Adverse Effects?
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	No adverse effects
"SR/Snake River"		
Product	Dilution	Adverse Effects?
Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner	1:3	No adverse effects

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## PHOTOGRAPHS- Adverse Effects

**"958" Ground-face CMU with Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Burnished Block Sealer**



Burnished Block  
Sealer followed  
by Burnished  
Custom Masonry  
Cleaner (1:3)

Burnished  
Block Sealer  
(un-cleaned)



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## CONCLUSIONS - Adverse Effects

Based on the test data, Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner diluted with three parts water did not cause any adverse effects on the submitted ground-face CMU's treated with Sure Klean<sup>®</sup> Burnished Block Sealer.

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## RECOMMENDED PRODUCTS AND DILUTIONS

Recommendations for each type of ground-face CMU are provided in the chart below.

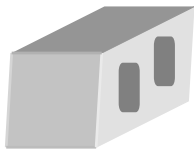
Sample	New Construction Cleaning
All Submitted Ground-face CMU's Treated with Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Burnished Block Sealer	Sure Klean <sup>®</sup> Burnished Custom Masonry Cleaner (1:3)

The most appropriate cleaner and dilution should be determined on the specific job-site, and will be dependent primarily on the nature and severity of soiling present at that location. Pressure rinsing equipment providing at least 400 psi at 4-6 gpm delivered through a 15-40 degree fan spray often produces best cleaning results.

Apply all products in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendation provided on container labels and product data sheets. On-site testing should be conducted to determine the most appropriate cleaning product and procedures for a particular project. See product literature for additional application and product information.

Christopher A. Moore  
Project Testing Laboratory Technician

CAM



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***Laboratory Report***

**Pallet Tag Program Evaluation**

**Best Block Company  
Littleton, CO**

***Project No. 0408-11 PTP***

***Prepared For:***

**Best Block Company  
8227 Blakeland Drive  
Littleton, CO 80125**

***Prepared By:***



***PROSOCO, Inc.  
August 2004***