

Approval Process

For the architect to develop and select the color and texture for precast concrete requires a combination of art and skill. The same is true of the precaster who must translate these requirements into workable concrete mixes and the proper finishing techniques.

To begin this cooperative process the precast concrete manufacturer will prepare a 12" x 12" sample of the required color and texture as specified by the architect. Initial samples are to be reviewed for color and texture only. Upon written approval of the 12" x 12" sample the precast manufacturer will begin production of a mock-up panel.



The mock-up panel shall incorporate the approved color and texture of the sample and reflect a shape relationship to the actual casting. The size of the mock-up shall reflect the relationship between materials, finishes, shapes and casting techniques, such as mold types, orientation of exposed surfaces during casting and consolidation procedures. Mock-ups shall incorporate all required finishes for a project and be clearly identified.

During the mock-up review, the project architect or owner's representative is invited to the precast manufacturing facility. At least three mock-up panels should be prepared to demonstrate range of acceptability with respect to color and texture variations, uniformity of air voids distribution, surface

blemishes and overall appearance. Mock-ups shall be viewed at a distance consistent with their position on the structure but no less than 20 feet. Approved 12" x 12" samples should also be compared to the mock-up to make sure original intent has not been lost. During the mock-up review the precaster will request the architect or representative to inspect and approve (*sign and date*) **mock-up panels**.

Approved mock-ups will be stored at the plant and positioned to allow comparison with production units. They shall be stored adjacent to each other to allow exposure to sun and shade for daily comparisons of the production units for finish and exposure. At least one mock-up panel may be shipped to the jobsite for comparison to erected panels.

For more information on design responsibilities contact MAPA at 800-453-4447.

Link

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