

Park Home Case Study Number Four

Controlling the Effects from Airborne Mould Growth

In Case Study One, consideration was given to the way in which the natural residual make up of wood can have a direct bearing on the extent that mould growth may develop after the plywood background is decorated.

However this is not the only source of mould generation. For example in high summer in Europe, it can be found that for every one cubic metre of air it may be possible to count as many as 20,000 fungal, lichen or algal spores, in fact it has been estimated that moulds and other fungi make up as much as twenty five percent of the earths total biomass!

Even conservative estimates would identify more than 100,000 species of mould throughout the world today each with its own distinctive structure or colour, however it is nearly impossible to identify an individual micro fungi with the naked eye.

Given that Park Home dwellings are often sited at costal locations or within a forestry environment the potential for mould growth is high. Finding a long term solution that would **not** involve the owner of a mould infected Park Home with the need to regularly colour wash his walls was recognised by **Everlac** (GB) Ltd to be a considerable challenge.

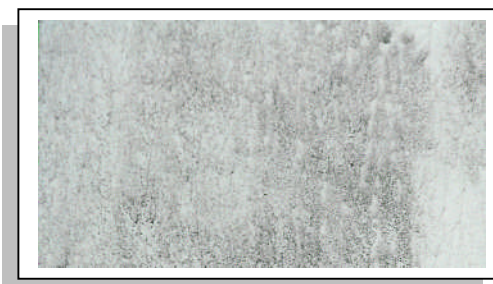


From its initial research **Everlac** quickly identified the potential risks faced by any exterior wall finish within these types of environments and the apparent ease by which they may succumb to the early onset of surface generated mould growth.

To gain a clear understanding as to why this should be the case **Everlac** (GB) Ltd commissioned an independent test programme and working in consultation with a number of Park Home manufacturers, carried out a comprehensive, comparative study to assess a range of generic coatings that might be deemed as suitable for the Park Home Industry and determine how they might compare from the affects of mould attack.

The test process was carried out in accordance with the recognised Test Standards SM 022 (Fungicidal Finish) and SM 023 (Algistatic Finish). However additional tests were carried out on **Everlac's Everflex** System where Cladosporium species and Penicillium species were included in the SM 022 test programme as a third and fourth test fungus.

The test programme identified that the level and quality of the resins incorporated within a given coating combined with its finished porosity would prove key factors in determining the extent to which any sample would propagate mould growth.



Everlac (GB) Ltd was able to conclude that coatings prepared with low levels of resin and or high levels of filler may positively encourage the growth of mould and whilst cheaper to manufacture might, in the long run, represent a false economy.

The resultant **Everflex System** demonstrated that **Everlac's** specially formulated coatings; based on a combination of one hundred percent Acrylic elastomeric resin and the very latest biocides remained untouched by mould attack in all of the recorded tests. It follows therefore that **Everflex HiBuild** and **Smooth** may be considered to significantly improve the 'service' life of any Park Home's exterior decoration from the continuous onslaught of mould attack.



Everflex HiBuild and **Smooth** now forms the important final stage in the **Everlac Everflex System** process



Application of Everflex HiBuild by roller

For further data on **Everflex HiBuild** and **Smooth** and their application procedures please refer to the Technical Data Section.