



\*\*\* TECHNICAL BULLETIN – MESH TESTING \*\*\*

## ***Not all Stucco Mesh Is Created Equal***

At **RESCOM Products** we take pride in providing only the highest quality Stucco Mesh. Using our 25 years of industry experience in woven fiberglass products, we set out to supply an import mesh that comes close to meeting the specification of domestically produced materials. There are over 45 manufacturers in China claiming to sell approved Stucco Mesh with everything from 3.8 ounce to 4.5 ounce per square yard mesh. Not only do we stand behind the weights of our fabric – 4.5 ounce per square yard and a true 6 by 6 weave but also provide a product that meets or exceeds the standards set for flame spread. **RESCOM** has and will continue to provide consistently high quality mesh.

### **BUYER BEWARE**

Over the past several months we have seen competitors who have decided to branch out from their core business (hardware/fasteners/tapes, etc.) and enter the Stucco Mesh market. While these are reputable companies they exhibit a lack of knowledge when it comes to fiberglass stucco mesh. **The industry has always looked for a mesh that: 1) weighs 4.5 ounces per square yard 2) has a weave count of 6 strands by 6 strands per square inch of material 3) is alkali resistant 4) is flame retardant.**

### **HOW CAN YOU BE SURE YOU GET WHAT YOU PAY FOR?**

While most of our customers do not have the ability to run a full set of lab tests on the Stucco Mesh there are ways to insure that you are getting what you pay for. Here are some quick and simple ways to check the quality:

- 1) **Count how many fiberglass strands there are per square inch of material** – it should be 6 strands per inch in both the width and in the length. We have seen product that is being sold at 5 strands per square inch. By reducing the number of strands per square inch you reduce the overall tensile strength of the fabric. **Reduced tensile strength may lead to cracking.**
- 2) **Weigh a roll of the competitors mesh and then weigh a roll of RESCOM mesh.** Reduced strand count leads to a lighter weight product. In our tests we have found that our competitors' products weigh between 10 to 15 percent less. We have seen competitors' specification sheets that claim their product is 4.5 ounces per square yard but go on to state that it is 140 grams per square meter. If you do the math or Google this information you will find that 140 grams per square meter is equivalent to 4.129 ounces per square yard. Any spec that is lighter than 152 grams per square meter (4.5 ounces per square yard) and you are buying a product that is underweight.
- 3) **Is it flame retardant? Simple test – light it and see what happens.** We have received samples of material claiming to be flame retardant but they burn. If the material burns it does not meet any specification.

On page two you will see some of the results of tests that we have run on the competition's material. The pictures point out several of the issues we are finding with their products.

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## ***Competition Is A Light Weight Versus RESCOM Products***



**RESCOM**



**COMPETITOR**

The sample on the left is a roll of RESCOM 38" X 150' 4.5 ounce mesh – weight – 15.76 pounds  
 The sample on the right is a competitor's roll 38" X 150' claiming to be 4.5 ounce mesh – 14.225 pounds

**There is a 10.8% difference in the weight of the roll.**

### **THE RESULTS ARE IN – UP IN SMOKE**



**COMPETITOR**



**RESCOM**

Not all Stucco Mesh is created equal – The photo on the left is a sample submitted by one of our customers. Note that this competitor's Stucco Mesh burns when lit with a lighter.

The same test performed on RESCOM Products mesh. Not only does the RESCOM Stucco Mesh not burn but is virtually impossible to ignite.

### **THE BOTTOM LINE**

**RESCOM** is committed to the industry and will only bring you the best quality products.

- Consistent quality – 4.5 ounce per square yard mesh is 4.5 ounce per square yard mesh- PERIOD
- True 6 by 6 weave per square inch
- Alkali resistant
- Flame retardant
- Multiple warehouses to ensure steady supply of product
- The ability to supply in house custom cut widths on all self-adhesive stucco mesh
- Continued support for our customers by adding stucco related items to our product offering including washers, trowels, red rasp paper.
- Availability of heavy weight mesh for those tough jobs – 6, 10, 14 and 20 ounce mesh