



Arte Mundit[®]

Peelable material for cleaning indoor areas

Selected references

- New York State Capitol, Albany (USA)
- Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York (USA)
- St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York (USA)
- Lincoln Memorial, Washington D.C. (USA)
- Yale University, New Haven (USA)
- Saint Vincent Ferrer Church, New York (USA)
- Union Station, Toronto (Canada)
- St. Martin's Basilica, Halle (Belgium)
- St. Paul's Church, Antwerp (Belgium)
- Basilica of the Holy Blood, Bruges (Belgium)
- Royal Palace, Brussels (Belgium)
- UNESCO Headquarters, Paris (France)
- Cathédrale de Sarlat, Dordogne (France)
- Palais de justice de Paris (France)
- Conseil d'Etat, Paris (France)

- Cathédrale Saint-Maurice, Angers (France)
- Sorbonne, Paris (France)
- Château Chambord, (France)
- Opéra Garnier, Paris (France)
- Église du Dôme des Invalides, Paris (France)
- Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Chartres (France)
- Sacré-Cœur de Montmartre, Paris (France)
- Musée d'art et d'histoire, Geneva (Switzerland)
- St. Paul's Cathedral, London (United Kingdom)
- St. Peter's Cathedral, Gloucester (United Kingdom)
- Westminster Hall - Houses of Parliament, London (United Kingdom)
- Mosteiro dos Jerónimos, Lisbon (Portugal)
- Crypt of the Basílica i Temple Expiatori de la Sagrada Família, Barcelona (Spain)
- Palacio del Rey, Madrid (Spain)



Arte Mundit – A milestone in the cleaning of interior walls of historical buildings

There are an abundance of different methods for cleaning historical facades. However, over the course of the last few decades, none of these has proven truly effective for the systematic cleaning of large areas inside historical buildings. There are a number of different reasons for this: some methods use large amounts of water, which understandably leads to problems when attempted indoors, while others generate a great deal of dust, which is equally problematic. Methods that avoid both of these drawbacks are rare, or – as is the case with laser technology for example – are so inefficient over large areas that if they were used for interior surfaces on a huge scale the costs would be astronomical.

Up until now, the only commercially produced product that has been widely used for cleaning indoor areas is, essentially, a paste that contains EDTA. It can be used to remove thin layers of plaster, or to reduce discolouration caused by copper, nickel and iron.

A more recently developed solution for cleaning the surfaces of interior walls are peelable pastes that are based on a specially formulated natural latex dispersion. While the water evaporates, the polymer cross-links to form an elastic film that adheres to the surface being cleaned. This film can be easily removed via mechanical means without the need for water. The cleaning effect is based on two different principles, which play a greater or lesser part depending on the type of contamination and how the product is formulated. On the one hand, surface contamination adheres to the film that is formed, while on the other hand, various components loosen and complex specific compounds in the surface being cleaned, which are then also embedded in the latex film. When the product is removed, a cleaned surface remains.

The different types of Arte Mundit

The basic product Arte Mundit Type I is a specially formulated aqueous dispersion of natural rubber. If the contamination present is more extensive than just adhering dust particles and needs to be removed via chemical means, the basic material is supplemented with small quantities of various complexing agents. As the

Application

The surfaces being treated are first vacuumed, and any gold or painted areas and decorative metalwork are covered. Then, Arte Mundit is applied, using either a brush or specially designed spraying equipment. As the material dries, the water evaporates and the dispersed polymer cross-links to form a solid, extremely elastic film. The product is designed for use in indoor areas. At temperatures between 10 and 30°C and moderate humidity, the peelable material is virtually dry after two to three hours; the drying time increases to 22 hours at 95% relative humidity. This means that in all cases, Arte Mundit can be removed the next day. If necessary, any remaining dirt deposits that have been brought up to the surface but are not bound in the latex film can be wiped away using a slightly damp sponge.

Advantages

In contrast to many other methods, cleaning with Arte Mundit can easily be carried out while the building is being used.

- Virtually no water is needed
- No dust is generated
- Noise pollution remains within permissible limits
- Almost any surface can be cleaned, including sensitive and valuable substrates
- Easy to apply with a brush or sprayer
- Odour-free
- No chemical after-effects/no “contamination” of the substrate with constituents of Arte Mundit
- User-friendly and highly efficient
- Salts in the substrate are not activated
- Also cleans deeper pores and moulded parts

addition of these components affects the viscosity of the latex dispersion, the end product must be reconfigured in each case in order to achieve the desired working properties.

Therefore, different types of Arte Mundit are available according to the level and nature of the active cleaning substances:

Arte Mundit Type I <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Specially formulated Latex dispersion without active cleaning agents▪ Single component	Arte Mundit Types II, III and V <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Specially formulated latex dispersion with increasing concentrations of active cleaning agents▪ Two components	Arte Mundit ECO <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Especially environmentally friendly cleaning paste made from natural raw materials▪ Free from EDTA, inorganic salts, surfactants and organic solvents▪ Can be used both indoors and outdoors▪ Does not contain any volatile neutralising agents▪ Long-lasting protection against moss and algae growth▪ Single component
<p>The success of an Arte Mundit type (I, II, III, V or Eco) depends on the substrate and on the nature and intensity of the contamination and is therefore difficult to predict. For this reason, different types should always be tested on small trial areas.</p>		

