



PCI PRODUCER FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS – ARCHITECTURAL CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

MOCKUP PANELS

Mockup Panel Type	Question	Answer
AA-1	The dimension lines for the 12' 0" chord are a little ambiguous, could you clarify them?	The Supplemental Requirement detail for AA-1, revised May 2020, clarifies the dimension.
AA-2	We have a question about the cold joint corner on the Type 2 Mockup in category AA. Is there any flexibility to incorporate a quirk joint on that vertical cold joint for the sequential cast return? Or, does it have to be a 90 degree return on the corner? And, if it is acceptable to incorporate a quirk, then what size quirk would be acceptable/preferable?	There is no option relative to the square brick corner in the AA Type 2 Mockup. The square edge is required because so many complex brick projects will not allow quirked brick corners, thus AA and AB producers are required to produce the brick mockup with square edges.
AA-2	<p>Could you clarify that the "Brick formliner", identified in Category AA – Mockup II, is intended to be:</p> <p>A. Rubber Form Liner with brick pattern. Brick pattern module size is Precaster's choice. Precast finish is concrete.</p> <p>OR</p> <p>B. Brick "liner" holds soaps in place to be embedded in the precast finish. Brick module size is Precaster's choice.</p>	The answer is "B" - the intention is that the precaster produce a mockup that features a brick veneer integrally cast into the panel. The precaster may use any type of locating liner (plastic, rubber, or foam) that accurately locates the thin brick (precaster's choice of brick) and forms an integral 3/8" joint between bricks. Not only should the liner accurately locate the thin bricks, it should also be appropriately sized to minimize paste leakage. It is further expected that any paste leakage that occurs during the casting process will be removed and the brick be cleaned during the finishing process.
AA-2	The type 2 Mockup has some 90 degree returns in the profile on the cornice. Would it be acceptable to add a draft to the returns for relief during stripping? How much draft would be acceptable?	A 1/4" draft would be acceptable. Please maintain the 2 1/2" flat at the outside of the cornice and take the draft out of the next 1 1/2" flat making it 1 1/4".

AA-2	Would it be acceptable to add a 1/8" or 1/4" draft to the bottom side of the cornice on the flat (non-brick) side of the panel? Without a draft, there would be 1 1/2" of 90 vertical in the mold.	Either an 1/8" or 1/4" inch draft would be acceptable.
AA-3	On panel AA Type 3, the dentil and recessed portions of the panels are to be smooth and NOT finished? Or does the precaster have the option to finish these?	On AA Mockup Type 3, all surfaces and recesses should have the same finish. It is understood that if you intended to apply a medium SB as your finish option that you would not be able to get a medium SB at the back of the dental recess without objectionably rounding the edges of the dentils. The intent is to provide an aesthetically uniform finish to the MU without compromising the sharpness/crispness of the detail edges.
AA-3	Category AA Type 3 mold seems to have a bust in the dimensions, specifically in section A in the middle 3'-10 1/2". If you extrapolate the dimensions from the outer sections (3 1/2", 1 1/4") the total does not add up to 3'-10 1/2".	The Supplemental Requirement detail for AA-3, revised April 2020, corrects the dimensions.
AB-1	On page 3-7 of the Supplemental Requirements, the bottom portion of the detail calls for texture two. We think that may be an error and it should be texture 1. Please clarify.	The texture should have been called out as Texture 1. The Supplemental Requirement detail for AB-1, revised April 2020, corrects the error.
AB-2	Are cold joints acceptable in both corners? Or just the one that is not brick?	Cold joints are acceptable on both corners as long as the corner details are maintained, that is square corner on the brick side and quirked corner on the smooth side.
AB-2	On page 3-11, callout G references "white cement base". Does this mean 100% white, or can it be a blend of white and grey, i.e. 50% white/50% grey?	A blend with a minimum of 50% white can be used
AB-2	For the brick panel...using standard brick sizes...they are already coming up with dimensions that don't exactly work well with what you are showing...are we able to make slight variations in the dimensions so that we have clean details as we would in a "real" project?	The Supplemental Requirement detail for AB-2, revised April 2020, clarifies the dimension.

AB-3	<p>What finish is expected on the 16" top?</p> <p>What finish on the flat back side?</p> <p>Are picks allowed in the 16" top or in the flat backside?</p>	<p>The top should have the same finish as you choose to use on the face.</p> <p>The panel back does not have a finish requirement. Float finish is ok.</p> <p>Picks are allowed in the top edge.</p>
All AA and AB	Are the mock-up drawings required to be submitted with BIM 3-D modeling, or can they be AutoCAD?	BIM 3-D is not required for any mockup submittals
All AA and AB	Is there anything that disallows using chamfers on the corner/edges of AA mock up panels?	Chamfers are not allowed on the corners/edges of the AA or AB Mockup panels. The intent of the square edges is to have the plants demonstrate that they have the capability to produce the square edges required by architects on many AA and AB type projects. A minimum "finger" caulk radius is allowed.
AC-1	What amount of white cement is required for the mix design that requires white cement?	The requirement for white cement in Mockup AC-1 is intended to demonstrate that the plant has the capability of batching white cement. While an exact amount is not specified, a minimum of 50% white cement would be in the spirit of the requirement. The mix could also be 100% white if the plant so chose.
AC-3	Does the returned edge have a form liner or does this have a textured finish (sandblast).	Mockup AC Type 3 requires a smooth form return (Callout AA) with a textured finish (Callout H - sandblast is an acceptable option)
AC-3 AD-3	Does the style form liner have to exactly match what is shown in Detail 2?	The liner on the AC Type 3 or AD Type 3 Mockups can be any type of linear form liner (ie: trapezoidal, fractured fin, etc). Please note that the liner ribs must be in alignment on either side of Detail 1 (Callout B) and, for the AC Type 3 only, must include a vertical liner seam that is not visible after finishing (Callout BB). The AD Type 3 Mockup also allows for an extruded rib

		(Callout A), if by some chance the plant applies a rib finish to an up in form surface.
All	Do all our (multiple) plants have to have the same finish on Type 1 and Type 3 mock-ups?	PCI considers each plant to be a separate entity relative to Plant Certification, thus there is no requirement that the plants be consistent in the finish applied to the three mockups as long as the finishes meet the requirements of the individual mockups.
All	Is there a requirement for the mock-ups to be pre-stressed?	No, conventional reinforcing is assumed, but prestressed would be acceptable also at the plant's discretion.
AA-1 AB-1 AA-1	Can the difference in texture between Texture 1 and Texture 2 be achieved by varying the depth of sandblast? On mock-up Type 1, callout H "smooth form panel finish - texture two shall be exposed aggregate," would it be acceptable here for the exposed aggregate to be a medium sandblast finish that is heavy enough to expose the aggregate?	The answer to the questions would be "Yes, an exposed aggregate finish achieved by <u>heavy</u> sandblasting would be acceptable." As a word of caution, the intent of the demonstration is not only to show a distinct change of textures, but also to demonstrate that the plant can achieve a clear line of separation between the two textures at the top and bottom reveals (without bleed over of one texture into the other).
All	Is it acceptable to deviate from the color and finish requirements, as long as the minimum requirements are met? (Example: can we include multiple colors and textures in mock-up panel types 2 and 3, even though it is not required?)	Mix designs and finishes should match those required by the mockup details
All	Will the mock-ups require an example of patching (as the A1 category previously required)?	There is not a requirement for a specific patch demonstration in any of the Mockup Categories. Plants will be required to satisfactorily repair any deficiencies in their mockups due to production or handling issues (airholes, chips, etc). These repairs must meet the Acceptability of Appearance requirements found in MNL 117, Section 2.10.



PROGRAM-SPECIFIC

Category	Question	Answer
All	<p>I wanted to verify a couple items concerning the variances between the classifications, mainly between AB and AC. I believe the answer to all these questions, except #3 is NO, but want confirmation prior to our declaration.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Can AC do two mixes in on panel? I assume AC can do two mixes on one project. 2. Can AC have two finishes in one panel? 3. Can AC use white cement? 4. Can AC do tile, stone, or terra cotta? 5. Can AC do cold joints-sequential returns? 6. Can AC only do radius panels with liners and reveals, no projections? 	<p>One of the over-arching concerns expressed by industry concerning the previous architectural certification categories was that the categories were too broad, which led to a wide variation in producer capabilities within a certification category. As a result, specifiers were at times required to change their design to match the capabilities of the plant, after project award. The purpose of the various category requirements is to demonstrate to the specifier the specific capabilities that the plant has demonstrated during an audit, to help foster alignment between specifier expectations and a plant's demonstrated capabilities. Plants certified in a specific category may well have production capabilities for other categories, but for their own reasons, choose not to be certified in that category. Contract issues with a plant's client are beyond the scope of the certification program.</p>
All	<p>We are a multi plant company. Are we allowed to share the mockup molds between the multiple plants?</p>	<p>Section 1.3 of the Supplemental Requirements specifically requires that "Mock-up panel molds cannot be shared between plants."</p>