

## Can CAFCO-BOARD™ Be Painted?

The answer to the question is **YES!**

Both unfaced and foil-faced CAFCO-BOARD can be painted. Actually, painting CAFCO-BOARD is a very common practice. Unfaced CAFCO-BOARD should be sealed with CAFCO Bond Seal (applied at a coverage rate = 150 ft<sup>2</sup>/gallon as mixed 3:1 water to Bond Seal) or CAFCO Top-Cote (applied at a coverage rate = 120ft<sup>2</sup>/gallon) to allow a more uniform surface to paint. Then, unfaced CAFCO-BOARD can be painted with a high quality water based acrylic latex paint. The foil-faced CAFCO-BOARD can also be painted to provide a superior finished appearance. The foil facing is a vacuum metalized aluminum polypropylene scrim Kraft facing, typically provided for pipe insulation covering. We recommend using a silicone alkyd enamel paint over the foil-faced CAFCO-BOARD. A word of caution, any paint product containing vinyl films should not be used because there may be long-term compatibility issues between the paint and the oils in the foil facing.

Some surface preparation is necessary prior to painting. CAFCO-BOARD Adhesive and foil faced finishing tape (foil-faced CAFCO-BOARD only) at all the butt joints is recommended to provide a finished painted appearance. All seams should be sealed and any holes should be repaired prior to painting. Remember, you should test paint adhesion and flexibility before application as well. A simple tape test should be sufficient to check adhesion.

### **TAPE TEST:**

1. Apply 2 coats of the test material to several one square foot samples of the CAFCO-BOARD.
2. Let the paint thoroughly dry for 48 hours at ambient temperature and moderate humidity.
3. Once dry, apply masking tape over the painted areas and rub well to insure a strong bond.
4. Then, check adhesion by removing the tape both slowly and rapidly.
5. If the paint coating cannot be removed with the masking tape, then adhesion is good.
6. If the paint film comes off but with some resistance, then adhesion should be acceptable.
7. However, if the paint pulls off easily and/or excessively, then adhesion is unsatisfactory.

### **FLEXIBILITY TEST:**

1. Apply 2 coats of the test material to several one square foot samples of the CAFCO-BOARD.
2. Let the paint thoroughly dry for 48 hours at ambient temperature and moderate humidity.
3. Bend, fold, and shake the sample for 1 minute to check for paint flexibility.
4. The paint should not crack or flake off during this test.

The foil facing is a flexible membrane and may respond to changes in temperature and humidity. The paint must have strong adhesion and remain flexible during these environmental conditions.

Painting CAFCO-BOARD is an ideal solution to providing fire protection and a finished appearance to floor/ceiling assemblies.