

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

To: Architects, Builders, Regulatory Bodies, Building Owners
The Building Agency Technical Team
The Building Agency Sales Team

From: Product Development Manager – Technical

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Topic: EQUITONE Edge Treatment

EQUITONE is a through-coloured high-density fibre cement base board, with a semi-transparent coloured finish which results in the structure of fibre cement material, shine through. The finished panel is both weatherproof and UV-stable. Irregularities, differences in shade, and traces of the manufacturing process are to be expected. The reverse side of the board receives a transparent back-sealing coating during production.

Please find the below points to help with the installation of EQUITONE on-site. For further information please refer to the Equitone Design and Install Guides under section Panel preparation located on our website <https://thebuildingagency.co.nz/all-products/fibre-cement-cladding-equitone/>

Sanding

It is advised to sand the edges of panels after cutting them to size. This reduces the possibility of damage and improves the appearance. A block of wood, approx. 400 mm x 100 mm, with a piece of sandpaper (80-grit) affixed to it, can be used to lightly sand the edges.

Luko Sealant Application Procedure

The edges of EQUITONE panels that are cut on-site must be coated with Luko edge sealant.

- I. Apply the Luko between +5°C and 25°C.
- II. Treat one panel at a time.
- III. Do not apply in wet conditions or after the panel has been installed.

Luko Application Guide

1. Pour Luko into the tray
2. Using the sponge applicator, dip the sponge into the liquid, and remove any excess
3. Starting at one side of the panel, and while angling the applicator away from the face of the panel, run the applicator along the edge, ensuring full coverage
4. Using a microfiber cloth or paper towel, immediately wipe away any excess on the panel surface; otherwise, permanent staining is likely to occur
5. Repeat if necessary

Please note:

With semi-transparent coatings like those used on EQUITONE, moisture ingress at the panel edges can become apparent as a darker shade in wet weather, this effect is called “picture framing” (refer to Figure 1 – before).

Figure 1 (before)



Picture framing is temporary and only aesthetic without having any adverse effect on the physical characteristics of the panel. Picture framing will naturally dissipate over time (refer to Figure 2 - after). The length of time does depend on seasonal weather conditions.

Figure 2 - after



Due to the high risk of panel staining during the application, we do not recommend sealing the drilled holes, which means picture framing is expected around the panel fixings and will disappear when the panel is dry (refer to Figure 3)

Figure 3



Provisions for adequate ventilation behind EQUITONE as well as correct storage, handling, and installation of the panels play a critical role in ensuring the picture framing is temporary and does not cause any permanent staining.

After installation, the Cleaning and Maintenance procedure must be followed, please refer to www.thebuildingagency.co.nz/all-products/fibre-cement-cladding-equitone/

The Building Agency can assist you with any other technical questions you may have regarding your EQUITONE project. You can call us on 09 415 2669 or email us at info@buildingagency.co.nz. Our brochures, CAD Details, and Installation guides are all available on our website at the footer of this document.