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## ***Exterior Plaster Inspection Requirements***

### **PURPOSE**

This document sets forth the policy for inspection of exterior plaster, also known as stucco.

### **GENERAL**

The California Building Code (CBC) Section 2508 refers to applications for exterior plaster. A minimum of 3 coats (Scratch, Brown and Finish) shall be applied over metal lath or wire fabric lath and shall not be less than two coats when applied over masonry, concrete or gypsum backing (an exception being the LaHabra method). Two coats may be allowed if exterior plaster is completely covered by a veneer or other facing material, or completely concealed by another wall. Thicknesses for applications are set forth in Table 25A-F of the CBC. Scratch and Brown coat inspections are not listed in the CBC as required inspections under Section 108. The contractor or person doing the work has the responsibility to install the product in accordance with the product listing. Scratch and Brown coat inspections are not life/safety requirements and are therefore not critical.

### **AUTHORITY**

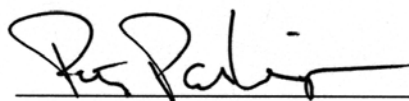
The Building Official shall have the power to render interpretations of the code and adopt and enforce rules and supplemental regulations to clarify the application of its provisions per Section 104.2.1 of the California Building Code.

### **POLICY**

Building inspectors shall not perform scratch and brown coat inspections. Finish coat application may be verified at final inspection.

**Exception:** Scratch and Brown coat inspections shall be required if the stucco system is designed as a lateral force resisting element. When identified as such, the Plans Examiner shall place a notice on the permit, alerting the applicant and Building Inspector of the required inspections.

### **Approved by:**



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Pete Parkinson, Director

Lead Author: DeWayne Starnes, Chief Building Official

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