

# MAINTENANCE GUIDE FOR ARCTIC TOPCOAT® CLADDING WITH OPAQUE FIRE-CLASS B SURFACING

Fire-retardant ARCTIC cladding is a high-quality, ready-painted exterior cladding that fulfills the requirements of fire class B-s1, d0. The surface finish is applied in a controlled factory environment, offering protection from the elements and making it easy to maintain and repaint. Natural wood is tough and dense but may have some unique characteristics, such as knot lift, shrinkage, checks caused by raised heartwood and growth rings, and/or splitting in a small percentage of boards. While these defects are rare, they are considered part of the wood's inherent nature and are not covered by warranty. However, these natural characteristics do not affect the cladding's performance and can be easily repaired for appearance. In the event of such defects, it is recommended to use Siparila's recommended paint to protect any bare wood.

## **Inspection of facade**

Painted surfaces should be inspected and maintained regularly. However, estimating the maintenance interval for exterior surfaces is difficult as wood surfaces are outdoors in very different conditions, even within the same building's various directional facades. Site-specific painted surfaces may also be subject to other stresses.

Keeping a logbook referring to the yearly inspection is recommended. Please note that the warranty will not cover damages due to lack of or improper maintenance.

## **Fading**

Fading is a result of the cladding's continued exposure to UV rays. Fading is not a warrantable defect. As a result, fading must be factored into your maintenance schedule. The amount of fading will vary based on the color chosen and the product's exposure to wind and sun. To ensure consistent appearance, plans should be made to recoat the cladding upon notice of color change. The cladding must be re-painted using an appropriate Siparila-approved product.

## **Mold & Mildew**

Mold and mildew develop on many exterior surfaces due to naturally occurring environmental spores. Though they may vary in appearance, these spores, or colonies, are typically seen as dots of blackish color. Mold and mildew usually grow in moist or humid shaded areas. To ensure long-term paint performance, molds and mildew must be regularly removed from the cladding. Remove the mold by washing the area with a soft brush. You may also use a specifically designed wood cladding house wash that removes molds and mildew from wood cladding; please follow the instructions on the product label.

Please note that Siparila's Warranty does not cover the damage caused by mold and mildew.

## **Preparation**

Dirt is found naturally in the environment. For this reason, your cladding will require regular washing. You may clean dirt off the cladding with a low-pressure household garden hose (under 100 psi); cleaning should only be performed on dirty areas. Do not use a pressure washer, as the high-pressure water may penetrate the building envelope or damage the paint coating voiding the Warranty.

Dirt and other impurities that hinder paint adhesion are washed from bottom to top using RENSA FACADE Facade Wash and thoroughly rinsed with water (please follow the instructions on the wash product label). If the dirt cannot be removed with water alone, you may gently scrub the surface using a soft brush. Gently rinse the surface with a low-pressure hose (under 100 psi). Ensure that the cladding is protected from the backsplash to minimize dirt accumulation. Also, ensure that gutters and downspouts direct water away from the cladding surface to prevent water stains.

## **Painting conditions**

The moisture content of the wood to be painted must not exceed 20% of the dry weight of the wood. During the painting work and the drying of the paint, the air temperature of the surface and the paint must be above +5°C, and the relative humidity of the air must be below 80%. After rain or washing, the painted surface must be allowed to dry completely before painting can start. Ensure that the painting conditions remain the same throughout the painting and during the drying of the paint.

Painting in direct sunlight should be avoided as the sun will heat the wall quickly, affecting the color, quality, and durability of the paint.

## **If the fire-retardant treatment is not missing**

Gently clean down the surface with a damp microfibre cloth, if necessary use a mild detergent solution and rinse well (not with high pressure) to remove dust and contaminants – if required fine sanding (grit > 240) can be used before removing dust and other contaminants. Ensure that the cleaned surface is completely dry before applying the maintenance layer of coating.

Apply by brushing two layers of the specified Teknos product in the desired color. Contact your local Teknos coating expert for further information [www.teknos.com](http://www.teknos.com)

- NORDICA CLASSIC House Paint (semi-gloss, Swan-labelled)
- NORDICA EKO House Paint (glossy)
- NORDICA MATT House Paint (matte)

## **If the fire-retardant treatment is partly damaged or missing**

Abrade any damaged areas with a fine sanding paper (180-240 grit) to remove all unsound coating and feather out to leave a smooth surface. Gently clean down the surface with a damp microfibre cloth, if necessary use a mild detergent solution and rinse well (not with high pressure) to remove dust and contaminants - if required fine sanding (grit > 240) can be used before removing dust and other contaminants. Ensure that the cleaned surface is completely dry before applying the maintenance layers of coating.

Apply three layers of TEKNOSAFE 2407-00 by brush, ensuring that 350 g/m<sup>2</sup> is applied to reinstate the required film build for fire performance. To achieve this fire protective layer, ¼ dl fire-retardant paint should be used on an area of 10 x 10 cm. TEKNOSAFE 2407-00 paint film must dry for 12 hours before applying maintenance layers of coating.

For exterior durability apply, by brush, two layers of the Teknos NORDICA-series coating in the desired color. Contact your local Teknos coating expert for further information.

- NORDICA CLASSIC House Paint (semi-gloss, Swan-labelled)
- NORDICA EKO House Paint (glossy)
- NORDICA MATT House Paint (matte)

## **Washing the painted surface**

The freshly painted surface should be handled carefully as it reaches its final hardness and durability under normal conditions in about two weeks. A soiled surface can be cleaned no earlier than one month after painting with RENSA FACADE Facade Wash according to the product's instructions using a suitable dilution ratio for maintenance washing. After washing, the surfaces are rinsed and allowed to dry.