SPECIFICATION DATA SHEET
For the Information of Specifiers and Trades

AXOLOTL TERRACOTTA

Product Description

Axolotl Terracotta is a liquid application and is applied to form a veneer onto a variety of building materials of varying shape and size. Axolotl Terracotta has been developed to bond to substrates such as customwood, metal, CFC sheeting, glass and fiberglass creating a chemical and mechanical bond to the substrate. Axolotl Terracotta surfacing provides a joint free terracotta veneer that looks and performs just like solid terracotta. Architects and designers using Axolotl Terracotta can select from a wide range of terracotta finishes in a variety of colours and surface textures. The terracotta can be raw or polished. Typical applications of Axolotl Terracotta include; facades, louvres, feature walls, shop fit-outs, signage, lift interiors, relief paneling and sculpted pieces.

Advantages over Solid Terracotta

Axolotl Terracotta retains the integrity of natural terracotta with variance in texture and colour. In keeping with Axolotl's current practices, Axolotl Terracotta can be bonded onto traditional building materials. This allows the terracotta aesthetic to be realised anywhere you may normally use aluminium, CFC sheeting or stainless steel.

The unique coating process also enables Axolotl Terracotta to be utilised in situations never before considered possible in design, as it can be bonded onto complex shapes and profiles, and modern building materials.

Additionally, the issues of shrinkage, weight, scale and manufacturing times found with traditional terracotta are dramatically improved.

Axolotl Terracotta is Australian produced and manufactured. It is offered in a range of colours and textures and has unlimited design potential. Each project can be further individualised with Axolotl's in-house ability to carve or etch custom designs onto the surface.

Test Results

Simultaneous Determination of Ignitability, Flame Propagation, Heat Release and Smoke Release
CSIRO and NATA tested in accordance with Australian Standard 1530.3-1989, Simultaneous Determination of Ignitability, Flame Propagation, Heat Release and Smoke Release.

Ignitability Index (0-20)	Spread of Flame Index (0-10)	Heat Evolved Index (0-10)	Smoke Developed Index (0-10)
0	0	0	2

Accelerated Weathering Tests
Axolotl Terracotta has undergone Accelerated Weathering tests of 3950 hours, equivalent of 10 years and shows no film breakdown. The surface oxidization can be removed with light scouring with steel wool. Under cyclic heat - rain and humidity, no form of film degradation is apparent for any of the system.

Household Chemical Resistance
Axolotl Terracotta has undergone 8 hrs concentrated exposure to common household cleansers all recording no effect to the Axolotl coat.

Additional Independent testing was conducted by AWATA Product testing with the following results:

Chemical Sample	Staining Rating
Ammonia	5
Bleach	5
10% citric acid solution	5
Vinegar	5
Windex	5
Betadine	5

Where 5 equals no change and 1 equals very significant change. Each chemical was applied to the sample and allowed to stand for 1 hour.

Durability
The physical and chemical tests indicate the coatings have excellent impact resistance, high water pressure washing and very good chemical resistance to the more popular household cleansers.

Maintenance
Clean Axolotl Terracotta surfaces with warm water and mild detergents only. Never use any thinners, caustics or powder cleansers. Solvent resistance for removal of graffiti is very good with the application of the Axolotl topcoat, however consultation with Axolotl is advised regarding the use of these products for cleaning.

General Surface Preparation

Surfaces to be finished must be supplied in their raw state, i.e. no paint, varnishes etc. and must be dry and free of oils, rust or scale. Surfaces should also be kept clean and free from any contaminants that could affect the terracotta. Use fillers recommended below for particular materials. **Do not use oil-based putties or fillers.**

Imperfections in surfaces caused by jointing, fixings and mechanical damage will copy into the finished surface unless carefully repaired.

Axolotl Terracotta will penetrate into fixing holes, which should have adequate clearance or be redrilled after the terracotta is applied. Components should be sized to allow for the thickness of the terracotta, approx 0.5mm. Axolotl Terracotta must be applied prior to any adjacent areas being treated. Indicate those areas that are to receive specialized masking.

As Axolotl Terracotta is applied by hand, the completed surface cannot be entirely uniform. These small irregularities add to the natural and authentic appearance of the terracotta.

Requirements for Particular Materials

Sheet metal - Surfaces must be clean and primed with a specified metal primer supplied and/or applied by Axolotl to achieve a satisfactory bond. The minimum thickness recommended for the metal substrate is approximately 2mm. Painted metal surfaces are not suitable for Axolotl Terracotta, yet they can be sanded back to the raw substrate and coated. Radius all sharp and square edges to a minimum of 1mm.

Steel - Welded steel structures can be coated with Axolotl Terracotta however; once components have been coated they cannot be welded without causing damage to the Terracotta. A metal primer supplied and/or applied by Axolotl must be applied prior to our metal finishes being applied. Radius all sharp and square edges to a minimum of 1mm.

Customwood - Use MDF Customwood of 9mm thickness or greater to prevent warpage. Screw and glue all joints, and use solvent to wipe off any excess glue. Fill all cracks, holes, imperfections etc. with Polyfiller or Auto Body Filler and sand to a level surface. Radius all sharp and square edges to a minimum of 1mm.

Masonry, Concrete and Plaster Cast - Pieces should be produced from moulds free of oil and release agents. Fill all imperfections with Polyfiller or casting plaster and radius all sharp points and edges to a minimum of 1mm. It is not recommended that plaster pieces be used externally.

Polystyrene – Pieces should be supplied with an even coating of expoy or hard coat applied to the polystyrene for Axolotl to coat onto. Lightly sand using 120-grade sandpaper. Imperfections in the polyurethane may read into the finish.

Fiberglass - Wash down surfaces with acetone then sand to a non-glossy surface using 120-grade sandpaper.

Plastics - Surface should be heavily scoured or sanded to obtain greater bonding.