

# **ALBI CLAD 800: FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

## **FINISHED APPEARANCE**

### **1. Can you paint or topcoat Albi Clad 800?**

Yes, Albi Clad 800 can be covered with a compatible topcoat. As long as you use a compatible product, a topcoat will not affect the fire rating or performance. You might choose to use a topcoat to achieve a certain color.

### **2. Is a topcoat required?**

No. Albi Clad 800 is complete without any topcoat. It is NOT necessary in most cases to coat it for additional protection. (In unusually severe exposure areas such as the Gulf Coast, Great Lakes or all coastal applications, we recommend the use of our Albi Polyurethane Topcoat, to add an extra layer of protection.)

### **3. Does Albi Clad 800 come in colors? Can you tint it?**

No, Albi Clad 800 comes only in off-white. You cannot tint it, as adding sufficient quantities of pigments could affect the fire performance. If you want a colored finish you may cover the Albi product with a compatible topcoat.

### **4. What does the surface texture of Albi Clad 800 look like?**

Albi Clad 800 is a uniform off-white. It is hammer-hard, with a fairly smooth surface.

## **SUITABLE LOCATIONS**

### **1. Can Albi Clad 800 be used in both interior and exterior locations?**

Yes, Albi Clad 800 is UL classified for up to 3 hours protection of both interior and exterior steel. It is extremely rugged and resistant to weathering, as well as challenging industrial interiors. For interior applications that are less demanding, specify Albi Clad TF, our water based interior product.

### **2. Can Albi Clad 800 withstand high humidity? Repeated washing? Weathering? Impact? Vibration?**

Albi Clad 800 is extremely durable. It is highly resistant to abrasion, impact, humidity, ultraviolet exposure, extreme temperatures, washing, and chemical fumes. It maintains excellent fire protective properties even when exposed to years of extreme abuse and vibration.

It has performed very well on offshore drilling platforms, power plants, and petrochemical plants, which demonstrates its ability to withstand severe environments.

## **FIRE RATINGS, CODES AND APPROVALS**

### **1. Why do you stress UL, Inc?**

Underwriters Laboratories Inc is the undisputed leader in the evaluation of fire resistive construction materials. UL conducts extensive fire tests of the rated assemblies. In addition, UL subjects the coating to accelerated aging, elevated humidity, industrial atmosphere, salt spray, ultraviolet light, freezing and simulated rain, and then exposes those samples to the fire tests. UL makes follow-up visits to the manufacturer to assure that the product sold continues to match the product tested.

UL's facilities, fire test experience, environmental assessments, rigorous impartiality, and wide acceptance by code officials and other authorities, are unmatched by other testing bodies.

### **2. What is the maximum hourly rating you can achieve?**

Albi Clad 800 is rated by UL for up to 3 hours.

### **3. Does Albi Clad 800 comply with BOCA, SBCCA, and ICBO and IBC requirements?**

Yes, Albi Clad 800 meets all relevant local, state, and regional building codes.

### **4. Do you have city code approvals such as MEA, LARR, and SF?**

Albi Clad 800 has been reviewed and is accepted by all individual state and city building codes, including New York, Los Angeles, and San Francisco.

## **STEEL CONFIGURATIONS**

### **1. We need fireproofing for steel columns embedded in block walls with column face exposed on both sides. Would Albi Clad 800 work there?**

Yes. While no exact tests exist, you could use the standard column listing. The block would act as an additional heat sink.

### **2. How do you best fireproof a steel truss?**

It depends on the size of the elements that make up the truss. If the steel components are small, then an intumescent is not the most suitable product. Albi DriClad would be better.

If the truss is larger, the elements are similar to steel sizes that have UL listings and you can work from those listings.

**3. How can I fireproof ductwork, such as grease ducts or air handling?**

Ductwork is best protected by Albi DriClad. Intumescent are not designed for use on sheet metal.

**4. How do you fireproof steel rods holding up a suspended walkway?**

Unless you have a recoverable spray booth, the only way to economically fireproof steel rods is by gloving the material onto the rods.

**5. I have a roof joist that I wish to leave exposed. What do you suggest?**

Typically roof joists are quite small and are not good candidates for intumescent fireproofing. Consider using Albi DriClad instead.

**6. How do I fireproof lintels to conform to Building Code?**

Here too, no exact UL listing exists for any manufacturer. For the most part you should use the most restrictive fire test, i.e. a column listing. However because the lintels are horizontal, most code officials prefer a beam listing.

**7. UL beam designs call for flutes of metal deck to be filled. How is that accomplished?**

As with most UL designs of this order, the accepted method is to fill the flutes with safeing material (4 lb/cu. ft.)

**8. Can clips for hangers be attached over the material?**

Yes, clips are usually best installed after the fireproofing has been applied.

## **ABOUT THE MATERIAL**

**1. Does Albi Clad 800 contain asbestos?**

No. All Albi products are free of asbestos.

**2. What is Albi Clad 800 made of?**

Albi Clad 800 is a proprietary formulation consisting of heavy-bodied vinyl based resins, binders, intumescent agents and reinforcing inorganic fibers.

**3. What are the major differences between Albi Clad 800 and your interior thin film fireproofing, Albi Clad TF?**

Albi Clad 800 is for Exterior or for rugged interior use. It is a heavy-bodied, solvent-based mastic designed to withstand exterior weathering and challenging industrial uses. Albi Clad 800 requires a slightly thicker application than TF and the texture is considerably rougher.

Albi Clad TF is for Interior use. Fire ratings can be achieved with a very thin coating with a smooth aesthetic finish. Albi Clad TF is water-based.

**APPLICATION OF THE PRODUCT**

**1. Do you have to be an approved contractor to apply Albi Clad 800?**

Definitely. Applicators must be trained to apply Albi Clad 800 according to our instructions. Our sales representative or our headquarters office can provide a list of approved, experienced contactors who have been trained at Albi Manufacturing.

**2. Does Albi Clad 800 require specialized spray equipment?**

Albi Clad 800 is a heavy-bodied mastic that is sprayed on with a standard, heavy-duty pneumatic operated, positive action pump.

**3. Can Albi Clad 800 be applied by roller, by brush, by trowel?**

For locations that are too difficult to reach by spray application, or for small patches, Albi Clad 800 can be applied by trowel, or palmed in with a gloved hand. For such situations, order the material in our trowel grade. (Rollers and brushes are not good tools for applying Albi Clad 800.)

**4. Can you apply Albi Clad 800 to bare steel?**

No, we recommend all steel be primed before applying the Albi Clad. Since our fireproofing is not formulated to function as a surface sealer or moisture barrier, a compatible primer is required to protect against corrosion. UL fire tests are made on primed steel.

**5. What is your recommendation regarding a primer?**

A compatible primer is required to protect against corrosion of steel substrates. We recommend Albi 487S, a phenolic modified alkyd primer, for use with Albi Clad 800. This is the primer used when Albi Clad 800 was tested by UL.

If you elect to use any other primer, the applicator must determine compatibility before applying the Albi Clad 800. Albi Clad 800 contains powerful solvents, of the fireproofing to adhere.

**6. Does Albi Clad 800 protect against corrosion?**

No. Albi Clad 800 is not a moisture barrier or sealant. A compatible primer must be applied first.

**7. Is mechanical reinforcement required?**

For some UL listings, reinforcement with wire mesh or fiberglass ribbon is required.

**8. Can Albi Clad 800 be applied at the steel yard and then shipped to the jobsite?**

Yes, Albi Clad 800 is often applied at the steel yard and then shipped to the job site. Care must be taken to insure proper cure before shipping, and supervision during the loading and unloading of the steel.

**9. Do any weather conditions such as high humidity or low temperatures restrict application of Albi Clad 800?**

Albi Clad 800 can be applied in most weather conditions provided certain precautions are taken. The steel must be kept free of ice, frost, moisture, etc. As a solvent-based product, Albi Clad 800 is not prone to freezing, however to maintain a good viscosity for spraying it should be warmed to 50 degrees. During hot weather it should be kept in shaded areas. Our approved applicators are trained in how to apply Albi Clad under various weather conditions.

**10. Since Albi Clad 800 is solvent-based, is it VOC compliant?**

Yes it is.

**11. How do we dispose of excess product at job completion?**

Assuming there is insufficient material to keep for the next project, allow the material to dry within the drums then hammer the sides of the drums. The material should be safe to landfill at that point, however it is imperative that the applicator check with the local waste disposal authority, and comply with local, state and federal regulations.

**CONSIDERING SPECIFYING ALBI CLAD 800**

**1. Is there a project nearby where we can see an actual application?**

Very likely. Over the years we have covered many millions of square feet of steel with Albi Clad 800. In the first section of this binder there is a list of hundreds of representative projects around the country where Albi products have been used. In addition, your regional sales manager will know of others.