

DATE:

TO:

COMPANY:

PROJECT:

GC:

MC:

ARCH:

COLOR:

This is to certify that WORKRITE<sup>®</sup> Gray Mortar Cement – **Type N** shipped from our plant in Thomasville, PA, conforms to ASTM Standard C 1329, "Specification for Mortar Cement."

Mortar cement is a combination of Portland cement that meets ASTM Standard C150, "Specification for Portland Cement," and proprietary additives that enhance workability and board life. When WORKRITE<sup>®</sup> Gray Mortar Cement – Type N is blended with sand that complies with ASTM Standard C 144, "Specification for Aggregate for Masonry Mortar," the resulting mortar will meet ASTM Standard C 270, "Specification for Mortar for Unit Masonry."

Very truly yours,

*KEVIN LAFORTE*

Kevin LaPorte  
Director of Operations  
WORKRITE Packaged Cement Products

#### RECOMMENDATION FOR PRE-CONSTRUCTION JOBSITE SAMPLE PANELS

We strongly recommend the practice of building pre-construction jobsite panels in the manner in which the walls will be built, cured, and cleaned during actual construction for pre-approval. Please note, there are several factors that can affect the final appearance of a mortar joint:

**Sand Color-** WORKRITE strips are made with a neutral light tan sand color. Sand color can have an effect on the final color of the mortar.

**Sand Gradation-** The gradation of sand affects the water demand required to achieve desired workability. Mortars with higher water-to-cement ratios tend to be lighter in color than those having lower water contents.

**Proportion and Mixing-** Controlling mortar texture and color requires consistent materials. A change in aggregate ratio changes the amount of water required to achieve desired workability, which affects texture and color in the finished mortar joint.

**Unit Suction and Tooling-** Different brick and block have varying initial rates of absorption (IRA). When freshly-mixed mortar is placed between units, the amount of water absorbed varies depending upon the unit. Tooling a very wet joint pulls higher water content paste to the surface resulting in a porous lighter surface color. If the mortar is tooled too stiff, the resulting friction delivers in a darker surface color.

**Cleaning-** Improper cleaning can completely alter the appearance of the mortar joint, changing both texture and color. Use the least aggressive cleaning technique possible.