



## Taping Best Practices

(Updated May 2017)

### Mandatory Pre-Job Walk

- Mandatory that taping foreman does job walk approximately one week prior to taping operations.
  - Review: Drawings, spec section, material submittals, budget, schedules and stocking requirements.
  - Walk project, check hanging and confirm areas are complete and clear for taping to start.
  - Create material stocking list for protection, trims, mud, clean up, etc. Turn into Project Superintendent and Project Manager to order and deliver prior to taping crew start up.
  - Create equipment list required for project taping start up and turn in to Project Superintendent and General Superintendent.
  - Coordinate crew size prior to start up based on area ready, budget and schedule.
  - Voice any preliminary concerns at this time to Project Superintendent, Project Manager and General Superintendent at this time.

### Job Best Practices

- Use budget sheet worksheet Linear Footage of trims 434 to determine total number of trims needed.
  - Example  $434 = 55,000$  total LF for job ( $5500 / 500 = 11$  total cases of trims).
  - If for some reason we end up using 18 cases instead of 11, we can easily determine that we may have missed something during our estimating. (Would also red flag why we are going over on labor as well).
- All Perry scaffolds must have top lock braking systems installed to accommodate locking wheels.
- Mask or protect floors or stairs where concrete is exposed finish instead of scraping or mopping after taping complete.
- Have apprentices scrape dropped mud on floors daily to remove while wet.
- No taping of areas until turned over, completely hung on walls and ceilings.
- Prefer no bead or reduced bead tape on trims instead of clinch on type beads.
- No taping of walls or ceilings until all trims are installed complete in the area. This ensures that the trims are installed first so that the wall and trims can be boxed in the same day.
- Confirm and check all tapeable flange access doors, linears and lights are installed correctly for taping.
- Spotting of screws to be done with nail spotter on all coats. No hand work while spotting screws.
- No hand coating of board joints, Taping of board joints with Boxes preferred.
- Mach 5 or similar sprayer is preferred to apply level 5 finish mud. 2-pass fog coat of mud and then sand. No Trowel. 3<sup>rd</sup> pass at critical light areas. Use 90% all purpose and 10% topping or 100% TNT.
- Critical light and high gloss finish walls and ceilings, “Restrooms, Lobbies, etc.” may require some deviation in “Best Practices” to obtain level of finishes required.

- Taping Quality Control sheets mandatory. Filled out per area prior to painting. Turned into Project Superintendent on site for filing with project documentation.

## Cost Codes

429 Firetape  
430 Demo/Electrical tape  
431 Finish Tape Walls  
432 Tape Ceilings and Soffits  
433 Taping Masking & Protection  
434 Install Tape On Trims  
435 Level 5 Skimcoat  
436 Taping Textures  
437 Taping High Work  
438 Taping Clean-up  
439 Taping Supervision

## Levels 1-5 Common General Practices

**Preconstruction:** Mandate jobsite visit by taping foreman prior to job starting. Decide if TNT will be used and notify foreman and Project Manager of materials desired. Check crew size and apprentice ratio against budget. Have taping kick-off to discuss finish levels required.

**Day 1:** Cut Board, prefill cut loose paper, remove excess or improper screws. Start cornerbead on columns and walls where ready. Install the tape-on trims and stringtape with bazooka. Mark finished on walls in pencil. On large jobs, have a man dedicated to pre-fill, cutouts and fixing screws ahead of the taping.

**Day 2:** – 7” box joints and trims spot screws using 2” nail spotter, and detail small trims. Las Vegas: 7” or 10” box joints and trims, split all butt joints with 10” box, spot screws using 2” nail spotter, and detail small trims. Box Corners with 10” box. No Hand Work

**Day 2\*:** Extra day needed if mud does not dry between coats.

**Day 3:** Sand, 2<sup>nd</sup> box joints, 2<sup>nd</sup> nail spotter, 2<sup>nd</sup> coat on detail with Mark V sprayer. Hit all detail on electrical boxes as well as butt joints where boxes did not cover. Do not sand screws

**Day 4:** Sand, 3<sup>rd</sup> box joints and angle box, 3<sup>rd</sup> nail spotter, start touch up. No Hand Work on prior to touch up, start touch up. Do not sand screws. This coat can also be done by spraying complete wall with Mark V sprayer and wiped down tight for high lit areas on walls and soffits.

**Day 5:** Sand, check out and touch up.

**Day 6:** Final sand, checkout and clean doors and diffusers

**End of Level 4**

**Day 7: Level 5:** Use Mach 5 sprayer to spray mud or hand apply for smaller areas. Complete 2 pass fog of mud, wipe down the spray, and then sand. No Trowel. Complete 3<sup>rd</sup> pass of mud at critical light areas followed with a wipe down (trowel). Use a 619 nozzle. Use 90% all purpose (harder finish).

**Day 8:** Sand with dustless sander and clean-up.

**End of Level 5**