

GUIDANCE NOTE
GN/002 JANUARY 2010

SPECIFICATION

The following information is applicable to all MDL Precast hand-made architectural and ornamental dressings.

All products are manufactured as a minimum to comply with BS1217:1997 (except where specified) and in the main technical performance criteria they far exceed these standards. All products are created from a homogeneous mix, i.e. without using a backing material.

Composition

All cement, aggregate, pigment, waterproofing materials and other additives used in MDL Precast cast stone products comply with their relevant British or European Standard.

Manufacture

All products are manufactured in a quality-controlled environment with modern batching and vapour curing facilities and storage is available to accommodate all products for a minimum curing period of 14 days. MDL

Precast has applied for ISO 9002 :2000 and product kitemarking to BS 1217:1997.

Compressive Strength

When tested in accordance with BS 1881:Part 116: 1985 compressive strength in excess of 35 MPa are achieved – typically 47 MPa. Cubes are tested on a weekly basis by an independent testing facility in Derby and results are available for inspection.

Density

Typical material density = 2100 Kg/m³

Water Absorption

Typically 3.5%

Drying Shrinkage

Less than 0.06% when tested in accordance with BS 6073: Part 2: 1981

Handling Reinforcement

All products are purely decorative but handling reinforcement has been introduced where necessary in accordance with BS 1217: 1997 where necessary.

Weathering

Weathering Class : CAT to BS 1217

All MDL Precast cast stone units contain stearate - a water repelling admixture that helps to reduce both water absorption and penetration. As this additive is added to the entire mix, it does not affect these properties if the finished product is cut.

There are two reasons for adding stearate that benefit both the end user and contractor:

- 1) The finished product dries quicker following rain, and therefore doesn't attract so much atmospheric pollution which can lead to staining.
- 2) Because there is less initial suction of moisture from the joints, it allows better curing of the mortar without any loss of adhesive qualities.

Dimensions (mm)	Tolerances (mm)
Up to 600 ± 2	
601 to 1000 ± 3	
1001 to 2500 ± 4	
2501 to 4000 ± 5	
Over 4000 ± 6	