SALT-AWAY®
Corrosion Control
SALT REMOVING TREATMENT

Manufacturer of products that protect against salt corrosion

The Royal Treatment

IS YOUR BRICK MORTAR SEEPING SALT?

INFORMATION ABOUT EFFLORESCENCE

EFFLORESCENCE

In chemistry, efflorescence (which means "to flower out" in French) is the loss of water (or a solvent) of crystallization from a hydrated or solvated salt to the atmosphere on exposure to air.

PRIMARY EFFLORESCENCE

Primary efflorescence is named such, as it typically occurs during the initial cure of a cementitious product. It often occurs on masonry construction, particularly brick, as well as some firestop mortars, when water moving through a wall or other structure, or water being driven out as a result of the heat of hydration as cement stone is being formed, brings salts to the surface that are not commonly bound as part of the cement stone. As the water evaporates, it leaves the salt behind, which forms a white, fluffy deposit, that can normally be brushed off. The resulting white deposits are referred to as "efflorescence" in this instance. In this context efflorescence is sometimes referred to as "saltpetering." Since primary efflorescence brings out salts that are not ordinarily part of the cement stone, it is not a structural, but, rather, an aesthetic concern.

SECONDARY EEFFLORESCENCE

Secondary efflorescence is named such as it does not occur as a result of the forming of the cement stone or its accompanying hydration products. Rather, it is usually due to the external influence of concrete poisons, such as chlorides. A very common example of where secondary efflorescence occurs is steel-reinforced concrete bridges as well as parking garages. Saline solutions are formed due to the presence of road salt in the winter. This saline solution is absorbed into the concrete, where it can begin to dissolve cement stone, which is of primary structural importance.

Whether the white deposit on your brick is primary or secondary efflorescence, using Salt-Away to remove it is beneficial. It washes the deposits off. However, the removal is temporary. Due to moisture and weather conditions, the substance continues to seep out of the structure, but for a time your efforts are successful for aesthetic purposes.

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