



# Low Energy Mortars

# STRUCTURE FIRST

The global warming potential of Portland Cement is in the region of \*856kg CO2 per tonne - very high by any measure. It is therefore imperative that the cement content of any mortar product is kept to an absolute minimum.

How do we achieve this?

### ***“Structure First Principle“***

Not all aggregates are created equal. Throw together a casual granular blend and the result is a lot of substance without much structure, that requires excessive cement binders to give it any strength.

At Steintec, we take a more scientific approach. Starting at the microscopic scale, we first

ensure that the aggregates used in our bedding and jointing mortars follow the 'structure first principle'.

With the aid of laser scanning techniques, and scientific standards of quality control, the aggregates in our mortars are designed to lock together in a way that provides inherent strength before any binders are incorporated.

This natural interlocking or ‘tessellation’ - combined with the use of high grade, mineral rich, cementitious ingredients - means that our mortars require substantially less binders than other brands. The environmental benefits are significant.

# STRUCTURE FIRST

*Steintec mortars need less binders*

**LESS BINDER = LESS ENERGY**



per tonne of mortar



per tonne of mortar

\*Global warming potential of Portland Cement = 856kg CO<sub>2</sub> per tonne. Steintec mortars consume typically 15% (up to 50% of other brands) Portland Cement per tonne of mortar, compared to up to 30% for other brands. 856kg x 15% (50% of 30%) = 128.4kg CO<sub>2</sub> per tonne.

# tuffbed<sup>®</sup> 2-pack

**“*\*Rotary kilns represent the largest energy consumer and carbon dioxide emission source of the cement & concrete industry*”**

By separating the binder component from the overall mortar mix, considerable energy savings can be made by eliminating the requirement for kiln drying of aggregates.

Traditional ready mixed mortars are delivered to site with binder and aggregate combined, which must be bone dry to prevent the mortar from setting.

But with Steintec tuffbed 2-pack, the aggregate is packed separately from the mothermix binder, which eliminates the energy intensive requirement for aggregate kiln drying.

In fact, we ship our aggregates wet, which further reduces the need for excessive additional water in the final mix!



# tuffbed<sup>®</sup> 2-pack

*Steintec mortars need less drying* (tuffbed 2-pack)

**LESS DRYING = LESS ENERGY**

**\* 52%  
LESS  
ENERGY**

required for kiln drying  
per tonne of mortar

**\*\* 14kg  
CO2  
SAVED**

per tonne of mortar

\* 80% of the aggregate component in tuffbed 2-pack is shipped separately. This represents 65% of the total combined mix for any job.  $65\% \times 80\% = 52\%$ .

\*\* Iain Gillespie 6 September 2012 - University of Strathclyde Department of Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. Estimated 28.8kgCO<sub>2</sub>/tonne kiln drying of aggregates in an asphalt coating plant.  $28.2\text{kg} \times 52\% = 14.66\text{kg}$ .

# tuffbed<sup>®</sup> 2-pack

***Stone aggregates are one of the most energy intensive commodities to ship***

Sea freight is by far the most economical way to transport raw materials but still represents 10-15grams of CO<sub>2</sub> per km/tonne. With an inherently heavy commodity shipped over long distances, this soon adds up.

By separating the bulk of the aggregate component, and sourcing this locally to the construction site, an average of 31-46kgCO<sub>2</sub> per tonne can be saved.





# tuffbed<sup>®</sup> 2-pack

*Steintec mortars need less shipping* (tuffbed 2-pack)

**LESS SHIPPING = LESS ENERGY**

**\* 65%  
LESS  
SHIPPING**

per tonne of mortar

**\*\* 31-46kg  
CO2  
SAVED**

per tonne of mortar



\*\*/ \*\* Based on 3000miles (4828km) average distance from Hamburg to port of delivery. Sea Freight 10-15grams CO2 per tonne per km (OECD Observer No 267 May-June 2008). Calc: 4828km x 10-15grams = 48-72kg x 65% (separated aggregate content of tuffbed 2-pack) = 31.2 x 46.8kg CO2 per tonne of mortar.

# tuffbed<sup>®</sup> 2-pack

*Overall potential savings*  
**SAVINGS SUMMARY**



per tonne of mortar



173-188kgCO<sub>2</sub> is equivalent to:

**1348-1465km**

distance travelled by the average car\*\*

\* Potential savings over rival pre-mixed brands. Example is per tonne of Steintec tuffbed 2-pack shipped 3000 miles from Hamburg by sea, with aggregate sourced locally.

\*\*smmt.co.uk (Society of Motor Manufacturers & Traders) 128.3g/CO<sub>2</sub> per km average car in 2013