

Republic Ultra Coat

Republic Paperboard located in Lawton, Oklahoma has developed a new paper for gypsum wallboard production, Republic Ultra Coat.

We are taking the lead in producing a product that is less dependent on diminishing white fiber sources. This new sheet can replace standard gypsum face paper and will produce a more uniform color with an improved surface.

Republic Ultra Coat Properties:

- More uniform color from run to run
- Smoother
- Less standing fiber on sanding
- Improved tape adhesion
- Similar surface to fiber for painting and taping
- Good performance in humid conditions
- Reduced damage/delamination of painted walls with tape peel
- Less effect of fiber swelling when wetted
- Quickly approaches maximum whiteness with fewer coats
- More closely matches the swatch color even with difficult colors
- Coating the sheet leads to higher porosity which still runs well on board machines
- Coating goes translucent when wet due to light scattering but returns to white when dry

Many of the fiber sources that were once used to produce gypsum face paper have diminished due to the electronic age with less use of newspaper and lower availability of unprinted white fiber. Republic saw the future and started investigating alternatives and options. A newer type coater was gaining ground in the U.S., the curtain coater. The curtain coater has defined advantages over standard blade, air-knife and rod coating that looked like a viable option for Republic. After approximately five years of research and development, Republic finalized a coating formulation that works in the gypsum board process. Board was produced using the coated paper, evaluated and tested and found to run well in the board plant. Finished gypsum board was then installed on various jobs from office to commercial buildings and performed well.

The onset of Republic Ultra Coat will begin in April 2020 with the installation of a curtain coater in Lawton.

Republic Paperboard Co.

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