



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE QUIKRETE® COMPANIES ANNOUNCE NEW
VENEER STONE MORTAR**

New Veneer Stone Mortar Formulated to Improve Jobsite Installation, Reduce Callbacks

ATLANTA (April 3, 2006) – The QUIKRETE® Companies today extended its line of commercial grade products with the introduction of QUIKRETE® Veneer Stone Mortar, a contractor grade blend of Portland cement, hydrated lime, masonry sand and other ingredients specifically formulated for Veneer applications and tuck-pointing of stone and thin brick.

QUIKRETE® Veneer Stone Mortar is available nationwide in 80-pound bags as well as 3,000-pound super sacks and is formulated to meet the specific standards of local building markets. QUIKRETE® Veneer Stone Mortar is available in standard gray and can also be colored for use in mortar joint applications.

“The development of Veneer Stone Mortar is another example of the QUIKRETE® Companies responding to the everyday needs of professional builders,” stated Dennis Winchester, QUIKRETE® executive vice president. “The QUIKRETE® Technical Center created a Veneer-specific mortar after receiving requests directly from commercial jobsites to help improve industry-wide consistency of Veneer applications and reduce callbacks.”

QUIKRETE® Veneer Stone Mortar is ideal for use in mortar joint applications, as a bonding coat to adhere stone to a wall and as a 3/8 to 1/2 inch scratch coating applied over expanded metal lath. The formulation of QUIKRETE® Veneer Stone Mortar complies with ASTM 270 and ASTM C 387 requirements. A polymer-modified and water-resistant formulation of the product also is available.

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The QUIKRETE® Companies

The QUIKRETE® Companies are the largest manufacturers of packaged concrete in the United States and an innovative leader in the commercial building and home improvement industries. With more than 80 manufacturing facilities in the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and South America, The QUIKRETE® Companies have unsurpassed product distribution and depth. The QUIKRETE® Technical Center ensures that professionals and consumers alike are provided with the most innovative and highest quality products available on the market. For additional information on QUIKRETE® or its products, please visit www.quikrete.com or call (800) 282-5828.

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