



Gypsum Products Development Association

30 April 2014

GPDA Statement

Decoration and Discolouration of Gypsum Plasterboard

A joint statement has been prepared between British Gypsum, Knauf and Siniat in relation to discolouration of gypsum plasterboard known as yellow staining.

This process is a natural phenomenon which, given certain conditions involving sunlight and/or humid conditions, can occur on plasterboard paper liner causing the paper to have a yellowish tinge.

This natural process can be accelerated if exposed plasterboards are subjected to prolonged exposure to sunlight and moisture. The effect is worse in high UV and high humidity conditions.

The fabric of the building and any restrictions on the drying process will also increase the incidences and chances of discolouration.

The recommendation is once gypsum plasterboards have been installed on site, the chosen finishing system, taping and jointing or plaster skim should be applied as soon as possible to prevent prolonged exposure of the paper liner to the environment.

For taping and jointing, the joints and plasterboard surface are required to be sealed as soon as possible using a Drywall Primer/Sealer. This should be immediately applied after jointing; this will reduce moisture absorption and the risk of discolouration. Final decoration should follow the jointing system with minimal delay.

If discoloration is already present prior to decoration then advice should be sought from a paint manufacturer as to their recommendations for preventing discoloration of the final decoration. Generally a non-water based paint is specified e.g. alkali resisting primer.

For further guidance and recommendations on specification and project assistance please consult the Plasterboard Manufacturer and relevant Drylining standards 8212:1995 and BS 8000:8:1994