

# MOR-LIFE WATER RETENTION ADMIXTURE FOR MORTAR

## 1. Product Name

Mor-Life powder water retention admixture for mortar

## 2. Manufacturer

Illinois Products Corporation (IPCO)  
423 Joseph Drive  
South Elgin, IL 60177-2268  
800-383-8183; 847-289-2800  
847-289-2804 (fax)  
www.illinoisproducts.com

## 3. Product Description

Mor-Life powder water retention admixture has been successfully used in masonry mortar since 1968. It is a pre-measured, white, dry powder that is exactly proportioned for each mortar batch.

Mor-Life holds onto the mixing water in the mortar, keeping the mortar plastic and workable much longer. Retempering is practically eliminated. Mortar stays on the ears of the concrete block. There is less dropout of vertical joints. There is no problem with mortar stiffening too quickly in the wall, making alignment and tooling difficult.

No matter the temperature or material condition, masons will be more productive when adding Mor-Life to the mortar.

### WARM WEATHER

Mor-Life is effective as a way to counteract the effects warm weather has on masonry construction. Hot, windy days can mean the mortar is drying out too fast on the board or in the wall, wasting mortar or sacrificing bond. Mor-Life keeps the mortar plastic and workable and improves bond.

### TUCKPOINTING

Mor-Life is also extremely helpful for tuckpointing. Mor-Life will reduce the amount of time spent wetting the existing brick, and will retain the water in the mortar allowing for improved bond between the old and new materials.

### HIGH-IRA (INITIAL RATE OF ABSORPTION) BRICK

Mor-Life is ideal when using High-IRA brick. These extremely absorptive masonry units can be extremely difficult to work with due to their high rate of absorption. Mor-Life will retain the water in the mortar, allowing for a more plastic, workable mortar and better bond, even with "soaker" masonry units.

### TESTING

The use of Mor-Life will provide a more cohesive, sticky mortar that will improve bond, thereby improving the watertightness of the masonry wall. Prove this with a simple field test. Build a pier 9 brick high in stacked bond with ordinary mortar. Build a second pier 9 brick high in stacked bond using mortar mixed with Mor-Life. After one week, turn both piers on their sides and support them at the ends, like a bridge. Pile brick in the middle of each bridge until failure. The Mor-Life bridge will handle much more weight than the bridge using ordinary mortar. The results are simple—the Mor-Life bridge will have a stronger bond, which will translate into stronger, more watertight joints.

## 4. Technical Data

- Material: Dry white powder
- Packaging: Clear plastic polyethylene bags with printed instructions
- Testing: Available upon request

## 5. Installation

Mor-Life powder is added to the mixing water prior to the addition of portland and/or masonry cement and sand. Mor-Life powder should be completely dissolved prior to adding dry materials. Do not attempt to mix Mor-Life powder with the dry materials unless the Mor-Life has been dissolved first. Mixing instructions are:

### PORTLAND CEMENT-LIME MORTAR

One (1) bag of Mor-Life with each bag of portland cement in a portland-cement lime mortar

### MASONRY CEMENT MORTAR

One (1) bag of Mor-Life with each two (2) bags of masonry cement

## 6. Availability and Cost

All Illinois Products Corporation masonry products and cost information are available through a nationwide network of masonry and building supply distributors.

## 7. Warranty

The recommendations and properties attributed to the products are based upon what is believed to be reliable information. Illinois Products Corporation warrants materials to be of good quality and will replace unused material proven to be defective. No expressed or implied warranty of installed material is made because satisfactory results depend not only on product quality but also upon factors that are beyond IPCO's control.

## 8. Maintenance

No maintenance is required after proper installation.

## 9. Technical Services

Contact the manufacturer for any required technical services. IPCO Material Safety Data Sheets should be read and understood by all personnel before using the products.

## 10. Filing Systems

Product information is available from the manufacturer in the following formats:

- Complete IPCO product line catalog in printed and CD formats
- Online access to all data sheets at: [www.illinoisproducts.com](http://www.illinoisproducts.com)



Revised 01/2007