



PAINTING

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B . C . C O U N C I L O F C O N S T R U C T I O N T R A D E A S S O C I A T I O N S

Trade Tech Tips is a co-operative effort between the AIBC and the B.C. Council of Construction Trade Associations (COCTA). This series of publications is intended to improve the transfer of technical trade information from the trade associations to the members of AIBC. COCTA is responsible for the development of this information, which should be treated as general guidelines and evaluated on a specific project basis. If you have any comments or suggestions on this program, please contact Michael Ernest, MAIBC, Director of Professional Services at AIBC.



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CAUTION: This insert is designed to provide insight on areas where architects should exercise caution.

Steel Preparation and Priming - Check to ensure that your specification in both the steel section and the paint section reflects the level you require. Too often off-site preparation of steel is not to the level specified as necessary under the paint section. Frequently an inappropriate primer is shop-applied to protect it from rust, thus causing a problem when on site application of the specified system is to commence.

Gloss/Sheen Standards – Up to now, there have been no Gloss/Sheen standards. An 'eggshell' latex is nowhere near an 'eggshell' alkyd, no matter which manufacturer or which brand you compare. If you want 'eggshell' latex to be the same as 'eggshell' alkyd, you would have to change the name – and we did - to Gloss Level 3. The old Flat (or matte) is now Gloss Level 1. Remember that the lower the gloss/sheen, the lower its ability to withstand marring or cleaning. The higher the gloss/sheen, the better the drywall finishing needs to be. Be very careful that the level of drywall finishing you need is properly specified, and achieved, or be prepared to lower the gloss/sheen (and ultimate durability) of your specified finish coating.

Colour Selection - The selection of colour will have three major impacts upon the paint you specify where the colour chosen is a medium to deep base (i.e. accent). The first is an environmental one, in that generally the amount of tinter added will affect the VOC (Volatile Organic Compounds) level. The second impact will be a lessening of mar and scrub resistance as the colour gets deeper (sometimes dropping two full gloss levels). The third impact may be the need for more coats than you specified in order to provide adequate hiding.

Elastomerics - These are excellent coatings when properly specified and properly applied. Many times a less expensive product will perform as well for certain substrates.

Multi-Colour Coatings - If being specified in food preparation areas, or locker rooms, or any area where health regulations require 'a smooth cleanable surface', you may wish to check to see if a clear coat is necessary. If so, ensure that it will be acceptable to health authorities and be sure that this 'extra' coat is included in your specification.

A R C H I T E C T U R A L I N S T I T U T E O F B R I T I S H C O L U M B I A

Temporary Coatings - Many products now come to construction sites with "temporary" protective coatings. Ensure that you are made aware of the site-coating implications. Some examples of these are chromate passivated galvanized surfaces, temporary rust-preventative primer-like coatings on fabricated steel and clear coatings on glu-laminated beams.

Shop Coatings - More and more products are arriving at the site with complete factory-applied coatings. Ensure you are made aware of the chemical composition of the coating as some factory finishings can not be painted for a considerable time (e.g. some coil-coated steel siding). Watch for 'silicone' in the information as it is difficult to paint over.

Factory Staining - Ensure that the wood is back-primed, and ensure that the product used has adequate mildewcide (some coatings have little or none). Plan for at least one site coating to adequately cover site installation damage (e.g. sawcuts).

High Performance Acrylics - These coatings will see less general use and more use where some chemical resistance is required as, although they are water-based, people in occupied buildings are reporting problems with the fast evaporating solvents.

High Performance Architectural Coatings - These coatings will see increased general use where mar resistance is important (e.g. high traffic areas like school corridors, or hospital surfaces that are subjected to frequent scrubbing). They provide substantially improved performance and stain resistance. For example, where a sample CGSB coating was required to withstand 500 scrub cycles, the comparable MPI conventional latex will withstand 1500 scrub cycles. The MPI approved high performance architectural coatings are able to withstand 4000 scrub cycles and have passed stain resistance, mar resistance, and other tests.

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MPI Approved Products List

published twice yearly in print and available monthly on our website at www.paintinfo.com

MPI Architectural Painting Specification Manual & MPI Maintenance Repainting Manual
watch for updates to both manuals expected late Summer 2000.

Contact: When you have a concern or questions about paint, call our technical staff (8 Quality Assurance Inspectors and 2 paint chemists), or go to our website. Guide specifications are also available for downloading at the website. We are here to help you take the **PAIN** out of **PAINT!**

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