

Interzone 101

Working Procedures

1. The Product

Interzone 101 (EAA001/EAA002) Composition Green is a solvent free, two pack epoxy material, specially extended with a hard inert filler to give outstanding toughness and durability.

It is supplied in two 3 litre units that are mixed 1:1 by weight (1.0:1.4 by volume). The base component is yellow and the curing agent blue, thus when thoroughly mixed a green colour is obtained.

2. Areas of Use

The product has been specifically formulated to give extended protection to the steelwork in tidal areas of platform legs, riser pipes and areas subject to regular immersion. Interzone 101 Composition Green is normally applied from 4 metres (13ft) below the “low water” mark to 8 metres (26ft) above this mark, thus giving the best possible protection against damage by abrasion and corrosion.

The product has many other applications in the marine environment and can be applied to concrete, GRP or GRC. It can be applied at new construction or as a maintenance coating. Because of the product chemistry it can be applied under water (fresh or sea) with absolutely no reduction in its protection characteristics.

3. Storage & Pre-application Precautions

Store the product in a clean, dry area (e.g. shed, paint store). Because the product only remains useable for about 30 minutes following correct mixing, ensure that all tools etc., are to hand and that the surface is free and ready for working. Also ensure that cleaning rags and equipment, thinners etc., and all masking is ready.

4. Surface Preparation

When using Interzone 101 ensure all surfaces to be coated are clean and dry (if possible) and free from grease, dirt, corrosion etc.

Blast steelwork to Grade Sa2½ ISO 8501-1:1988 (SSPC-SP10). If the use of a holding primer is required then apply Interline 982 epoxy primer to 40 microns (1.5 mils) d.f.t. This surface should be overcoated within 10 days (maximum). Please read the data sheet on Interline 982 before use.

Concrete should be thoroughly scabbled or scarified and GRP/GRC abraded with a power tool. All dust etc., should be removed.

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5. Preparing the Product for Use

Only one complete unit should be mixed at a time. To remove components from their tins, cut both the top and bottom of the tin using a tin-opener and push the material out. In cold weather, warming the can sides will melt the material at the edges and facilitate removal.

Mixing should be carried out on a large clean sheet of tinplate or smooth hardboard using palette knives or scraper blades. Do not use any water to keep the knives clean or to help mixing as inclusion of water at this stage will reduce the strength of the cured composition. The material should be thoroughly mixed until the separate yellow and blue colours have been completely merged to a bright green colour, free of yellow and blue streaks. Avoid beating air into the mixture and “fold” the components together.

In temperate conditions up to 20°C (68°F) the material should be used within 30 minutes. As the ambient temperature increases the “mixed life” is further reduced, and in tropical conditions the material should be used within 15 minutes of mixing.

When the product commences curing it goes rubbery and this change in texture can be easily discerned. At this stage the product must be discarded. Further paint should not be mixed on top of cured or curing paint, therefore, use a fresh surface for mixing or thoroughly clean the area with solvent.

6. Application of the Product

(a) Onshore (New Fabrication, Dry Conditions)

The material is applied by hand-moulding. Applicators must wear rubber gloves and appropriate skin protection. Repeated contact with Interzone 101 Composition Green can cause sensitisation and/or skin problems. Gloves may be dampened with water to assist in application and stop the paint sticking to the gloves.

When coating it is advisable to use a depth mark. Affix 9mm band or strip to the surface at intervals and work the coating up to these marks. Smooth the coating off with gloves or rollers using a little water to prevent sticking. Do not incorporate water into the coating.

Test the overall film thickness by pressing a sharp spike into the coating marked at 6mm. Any thin areas can then be build up, as can air bubbles, spike marks etc.

It is advisable not to aim for a perfect finish with this product but ensure an overall 6mm film with no defects.

(Note: International GQA001 PVC mesh can be used to assist application. The use of this product is fully described in Section 6 (b), Item (i), overleaf but the product can also be used onshore if this is found to be convenient.)

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(b) **Offshore (Applications to Tidal Areas, Intermittently Wet Areas etc)**

Interzone 101 may be applied to surfaces prepared to Sa2½ (ISO 8501-1:1988) or SSPC-SP10 which have flash rusted to no worse than Grade HB2½M (refer to International Hydroblasting Standards) or Grade SB2½M (refer to International Slurry blasting Standards). It is also possible to apply to damp surfaces in some circumstances. Further information is available from International Protective Coatings.

In tidal areas make all preparations and commence work as soon as practicable. When applying to bare steel substrates in permanently wet conditions the surface may be prepared by power discing with a carborundum disc or by needle gun to achieve a clean, roughened surface in accordance with SSPC-SP11, power tool cleaning.

There are two ways of applying Interzone 101 (EAA001/EAA002) under these conditions:-

(i) **By use of International GQA001 PVC Mesh**

Cut the mesh to size and wrap tightly around the substrate. Use wire to secure the mesh firmly so that it does not slip. Ensure all wire is tucked under the mesh. After mixing force the Interzone 101 well into the mesh with the hands (use rubber gloves). The mesh is approximately 6mm (¼") in depth so after ensuring all the mesh is covered the film thickness will be correct.

(ii) **By Corset Method**

Lay a sheet of PVC cloth on the ground and cover this with Interzone 101 to approximately 6mm (¼") depth. Press the cloth/coating mixture onto the steel and wrap the cloth around the substrate. Use rope or wire to keep the coating in place. When the coating has dried off the material may easily be peeled off.

(c) **Application Underwater**

Application underwater is fairly difficult and requires a good deal of pre-planning. When applying to bare steel substrates below water or in permanently wet conditions the surface should be prepared by power discing with a carborundum disc or by needle gun to achieve a clean, roughened surface in accordance with SSPC-SP11, power tool cleaning. It is best to use the mesh technique but care should be taken to ensure the mesh is very tightly fixed down so as to avoid "ballooning" underwater. The corset method is also suitable for use underwater. The key to success is to use only small quantities of coating at a time and to ensure the material is firmly fixed before progressing.

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7. **Further Notes**

Prior to commencing application, please read the Interzone 101 product data sheet, and material safety data sheet (MSDS) thoroughly for curing times, safety precautions, spreading rates etc.

Any further advice can be obtained from you local International Protective Coatings, Technical Service Department.

Disclaimer

The information given in this sheet is not intended to be exhaustive and any person using the product for any purpose other than that specifically recommended in this sheet without first obtaining written confirmation from us as to the suitability of the product for the intended purpose does so at his own risk. Any warranty, if given, or specific Terms & Conditions of Sale are contained in International's Terms & Conditions of Sale, a copy of which can be obtained on request. Whilst we endeavor to ensure that all advice we give about the product (whether in this sheet or otherwise) is correct we have no control over either the quality or condition of the substrate or the many factors affecting the use and application of the product. Therefore, unless we specifically agree in writing to do so, we do not accept any liability whatsoever or howsoever arising for the performance of the product or for any loss or damage (other than death or personal injury resulting from our negligence) arising out of the use of the product. The information contained in this sheet is liable to modification from time to time in the light of experience and our policy of continuous product development.