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Interline 910 Working Procedures

INTRODUCTION	Installation of a lining system is the most effective method of protecting steel tanks and vessels from corrosion and preventing product contamination. There are three essential elements to a correct tank lining:-						
	Selection of the appropriate lining system						
	Suitable film thickness specification						
	Correct installation						
	The procedures contained in this document have been compiled to provide guidance on achieving both the mandatory standards for surface preparation and for lining application. Any proposed deviations from these recommendations should be discussed and agreed with International Protective Coatings before the project is commenced.						
	The responsibility for achieving the standards detailed in this document to carry out installation in accordance with good lining practice rests with the contracting company carrying out the work. Under no circumstances does the responsibility become the burden of International Protective Coatings or any associate company thereof, whether that company or associate is represented on site or not.						
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS FOR TANK LINING	 Tanks must be structurally sound. Tank lining is intended to mitigate corrosion prevent product contamination and give assurance against leakage. No tank lining including fibre glass systems, afford structural strength to the tank. 						
	 Contractors selected by the client for tank lining application should be made familiar with the procedures required and be able to demonstrate competence to the client's satisfaction. 						
NEW CONSTRUCTION	The preferred manufacturing procedure for new tanks is that internal surfaces should be coated with a pre-construction primer prior to fabrication. The primer should then be removed after erection and hydrostatic testing. Benefits of this procedure are:-						
	 Reduced potential for steel contamination from soluble salts either from corrosion or hydrostatic testing. 						
	Easier to achieve specified blast standard as recommended on individual product data sheets.						
TANK CONDITION PRE-CONTRACT	Before the start of treatment it is essential that internal tank surfaces are clean, dry and in a condition suitable for surface preparation and application of the lining system. The following minimum requirements apply:-						
	Tanks must be structurally sound and gas free.						
	All inlet pipes must be blanked off.						
	 Surfaces should be de-sludged and residues removed from the tank. Oil or grease must be removed from all surfaces to be lined. 						
	 Heavy scale or other debris must be removed from all surfaces, including the roof. For heavily scaled or contaminated surfaces rough cleaning by sweep blasting may be required. 						
	 Corroded steel that is heavily contaminated may require additional cleaning, e.g. steam cleaning or high pressure fresh water washing, before surface preparation starts. 						

Interline 910 Working Procedures

	 Any cutting, welding or burning <u>must</u> be completed before surface preparation commences.
	 Tanks are often subjected to hydrostatic testing and if this is carried out using salt or brackish water then this test must be followed by fresh water washing. In these conditions the maximum allowed total soluble salt contamination before application of Interline 910 is 5µg cm⁻². International Protective Coatings recommends ISO 8502, Part 6, as a suitable test procedure.
HEALTH & SAFETY	Whilst Interline 910 is solvent free the particulates produced during airless spray may form an explosive mixture with air and additionally may contain materials which may necessitate personal protection against potential health hazards. A summary of the main precautions to be taken includes:-
	Attention to the dangers of explosion or fire.
	Provision of adequate ventilation (see Section f).
	Ensure that tanks and surrounding areas are flame and spark free.
	Provide painters or operatives with the correct respiratory protection.
	Ensure correct protective clothing is worn to avoid skin contact.
	• The safety advice provided is applicable to the surface preparation, application of the lining and inspection. It is not intended to be comprehensive and is a guide based on accumulated knowledge of the hazards involved, the proposed use of safety equipment and evolved safety procedures.
	 Full details of the H&S requirements for this material are given in the Interline 910 Material Safety Data Sheets.
	General Site Requirements
	Prior to any work being carried out there are a number of conditions which must be met.
	a) Cleanliness
	Any contaminants which may come in contact with the steel (even before surface preparation commences) can compromise the performance of a tank lining system, and as such all effort must be made to keep the working area clean. It is good working practice to establish a clean area around the entrance to the tank where clean footwear can be put on prior to entering the vessel. If clean footwear is not readily available then disposable overshoes can be worn for short periods. Cleanliness must be maintained throughout all stages of the application.
	b) Weather Shelters
	Weather shelters should be made available to cover application equipment during

Weather shelters should be made available to cover application equipment during mixing and application of material.

c) Power Source

Generator and sufficient fuel for entire contract to power all the equipment required for the application, i.e. compressors, lighting etc.

d) Paint Storage Facility

Interline 910 should be stored ideally between 15°C (59°F) and 30°C (86°F) and facilities may be needed to store the materials in the correct temperature range prior to mixing and application. If maintained at higher temperatures shorter pot lives will result.

International Protective Coatings recommends storage above 10°C (50°F) to ensure stability of the product.

e) Dehumidification

Surfaces to be lined must have a temperature at least 3°C (5°F) above the dew point, immediately following blasting and priming, and during lining application, and must also remain in this condition during curing of the lining. To achieve this requirement heating/dehumidification may be necessary.

As a guide, relative humidity levels of 40-60% give optimum installation conditions, although some lining applications may be carried out between 25% and 80% relative humidity. The requirement for dehumidification is dependent on prevailing environmental conditions and the actual lining being applied, Consult International Protective Coatings product data sheets for recommendations.

When dehumidification is being used, provision must be made for continuous 24 hour operation to maintain the environment at the required levels throughout the contract.

f) Ventilation

During the blast cleaning operation, ventilation is necessary to allow adequate visibility for safe working. Flexible ventilation trunking should be used to allow extraction of the dust immediately adjacent to where blasting is being carried out.

Ventilation should be maintained during lining application and curing at a rate such that the concentration of flammable materials is kept below 10% of Lower Explosive Limit (LEL).

Product Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) should be referred to for details of Required Air Quantity (RAQ) to ventilate to 10% of LEL. These figures can be found in Section 9 of the MSDS.

In order to calculate the RAQ to ventilate to 10% of LEL for 1 litre of mixed paint (RAQ_M) the following method is used:

X = Mix ratio Base : Curing Agent by volume (e.g. if the mix ratio is 2:1 by volume, the X will be 2).

B = RAQ to ventilate to 10% LEL for Base component (m^3 /litre).

C = RAQ to ventilate to 10% LEL for Curing Agent component $(m^3/litre)$.

$$RAQ_{M} (m^{3}/litre) = \left(\frac{X}{X+1} \times B\right) + \left(\frac{1}{X+1} \times C\right)$$

Ventilation rate required depends on the application rate of the paint in litres/hour.

If Y = Number of litres of mixed paint applied per hour

Ventilation Rate (m^3 /hour) = RAQ_M x Y

Note: Thinning of Interline 910 is not permitted.

	As a guideline International Protective Coatings recommend a minimum of 2 air changes per hour to ensure good visibility and a safe working environment.
	Ventilation should also be used during the curing period to maintain the correct climatic conditions for the coating. If in doubt consult International Protective Coatings.
	As with all processes, the ventilation equipment must be intrinsically safe during operation. Abrasive dust and solvent vapour should not be reintroduced to the tank. A positive pressure greater than normal atmospheric should be maintained inside the tank. Provision should be made for 24 hour surveillance of ventilation equipment.
	g) Heating
	Interline 910 must only be installed when steel temperatures are above the minimum temperature indicated on the Interline 910 product data sheets.
	If heating is necessary to satisfy the lining specification, it should be by means of a heat exchange system incorporated into the dehumidified air supply, i.e. air admitted to the tank should not pass directly through a combustion chamber. Provision should be made for 24 hour surveillance of heating equipment.
	h) Lighting
	Lighting during blasting and lining installation must be intrinsically safe and provide suitable illumination for all work. Ideally, lighting should be by powerful spotlights with background lighting on at all times in the interest of safety. Powerful, hand-held spotlights should be provided for inspection work.
STEELWORK PREPARATION	To provide a surface which will ensure optimum lining performance, preparation is required to remove surfaces which have a sharp edge. These include, but are not limited to, plate edges, weld spatter, plate laminations, weld undercuts, or gas cut surfaces.
INSTALLATION OF STRIKER PLATES	 Prior to the application of the Interline 910 system, it is recommended that precoated striker plates are installed under any tank equipment that could cause mechanical damage to the lining system, namely column roof supports, floating roof legs, roof drainage systems or internal pipework.
	 Installation of these striker plates is done before the general surface preparation to minimise the contamination from the roof during the jacking operation to install the plates.
	 Striker plates are to be made from appropriate gauge plate and be of sufficient size as to fit existing plates. If striker plates do not exist, the plates shall be of sufficient size to extend 15cm (6 inches) in all directions from the roof support base.
	• The new plates shall be blasted on both sides to Sa2½ ISO 8501-1:1988 or SSPC SP10. These plates shall be primed on both sides with the specified Interline primer masking off a 5cm (2 inches) area on all sides at the leading edge on top. The top surface of the plate should be coated with the full Interline 910 as specified.
	The completed plate is ready for installation to the tank bottom.
	• Raise the support column to allow installation of precoated striker plate. When the support column has been raised, apply an even coat of an appropriate Interline caulk to the bottom side of the precoated plate and to the prepared area underneath the support on the tank floor. Centre the plate under the support column and lower the jack. Remove excess caulk.

Interline 910 Working Procedures

ABRASIVE BLAST CLEANING

General

- The standard of blast cleaning for tank linings is higher than that required for coatings subject to atmospheric service. The two common standards specified are to ISO 8501-1:1988 and SSPC-SP – Surface Preparation Standards and Specifications.
- Interline 910 should be applied over steel prepared to a minimum Sa2½ (ISO 8501-1:1998) or SSPC-SP10, with a sharp angular profile of 75-100 μ m (3-4 mils) depth.
- In some areas of very aggressive service Sa3 (SSPC SP5) may be specified. Always consult the individual data sheets for minimum surface preparation standards.
- If advice on any other standard of surface preparation is required, please consult International Protective Coatings.
- It may be necessary to fresh water wash areas after abrasive blasting, followed by a re-blast, to reduce levels of soluble corrosion products. If rapid re-oxidation is occurring, this treatment should be carried out.

Compressed Air

• Air used for blasting must be clean, oil free and dry. The pressure should be at least 7kg per cm² (100lbs per inch²) at the nozzle.

Abrasive

- Abrasive used for blasting should be dry and free from dirt, oil, grease or contamination and have content of water soluble matter not exceeding 0.05%.
- The abrasive must be capable of producing the standard of cleanliness and surface profile specified.
- For tank lining a sharp angular profile is required, consult individual product data sheets for minimum required profile. This can be achieved by hard angular abrasive of particle size 1-1.5mm(0.04-0.06 inches) using an efficient blast cleaning technique. Procedures to be adopted by the contractor for blast cleaning should be agreed with International Protective Coatings.
- Iron or steel abrasives are not recommended for in-situ open blasting of stainless steel. This is to prevent corrosion occurring at sites where spent abrasive is deposited and not fully removed.

Automatic Floor Blasting

 Automatic blasting using centrifugal wheel machines is recommended for floor blasting. The abrasive selected must be from blended shot and angular abrasive to achieve the specified profile and standard.

Cleaning

- Before initial blast inspection, the spent abrasive should be removed. Any substandard areas should be identified and repaired. All marking paint, chalk etc., must be removed after rectification.
- Following inspection of the blast profile and cleanliness standard, remaining traces of abrasive and dust should be removed from all areas. Industrial vacuum cleaners fitted with brushes should be used sweeping alone is not acceptable. Blowing down with compressed air is not recommended due to the potential of oil/dust contamination.

	 Cleaning should be carried out on any area on which debris or dust can collect, to avoid contaminating surfaces to be coated including scaffolding, underside of lowered floating roofs, support columns etc.
	 The condition of the steelwork for lining application should be rechecked after the final cleaning process is finished.
HOLDING PRIMERS	 Linings should always be applied to blasted surfaces with a visual appearance in accordance with the specified standard.
	• If practical, the blast standard may be maintained by use of dehumidification only. If maintaining standard by this method the standard must meet the requirements stipulated in the individual product data sheets.
	 Under practical conditions, a holding primer is often used to aid the blasting programme. Holding primers must be compatible with the lining system and applied at the specified film thickness to avoid introducing a weakness into the system.
STRIPE COATING	 Stripe coating is an essential part of good working practice, and as such should form part of any lining specification. The number and sequence of stripe coats are highlighted in the recommended technical specification.
	 Stripe coats are applied to areas where it is difficult to achieve the required coverage, including but not limited to:-
	 Plate edges Welds Pipes Ladders Difficult access areas
	 Stripe coats are normally applied to a specified film thickness range via a combination of narrow angle airless spray and brush methods. Overcoating intervals for the stripe coats should be strictly adhered to as per the individual product data sheet.
LINING APPLICATION	 All linings should be applied in accordance with the recommended specification and product data sheets.
	 The majority of linings are applied by using airless spray. Brush or roller may be used for application of stripe coats or touch-up coats only.
	• Available input air pressure and capacity of spray equipment should be at least 5.0kg per cm ² and 3.5m ³ per minute (70 p.s.i. and 125 c.f.m.).International Protective Coatings request the use of the highest available ratio pump to ensure optimum delivery of product.
	 Airless spray equipment should be in good working order. Output pressures and the correct tip sizes as stipulated on product data sheets should be used.
INSPECTION	The system should be inspected using a suitable non-destructive magnetic gauge to verify average lining thickness.
	The coating system shall receive a final inspection with a high frequency spark type Holiday Detector. The instrument shall be set at minimum 100 volts per $25\mu m$ (1 mil) thickness.

Interline 910 Working Procedures

REPAIR PROCEDURE The repair procedure recommended will depend upon the extent of damage involved but can be split into:-

- (i) Repairs of major areas
- (ii) Repairs of minor areas

Major Repairs

A major repair should essential be dealt with as if the project were beginning. The recommendations given earlier for steel preparation, coating application etc, MUST all be adhered to.

Minor Repairs

Under this heading are repairs to areas damaged either at the initial coating stage or caused during service, i.e. tank cleaning equipment damages, spot corrosion etc. The principle requirements are:-

- > The area to be repaired must be fresh water washed and dry.
- Remove any corrosion by means of either:-
 - vacuum blasting;
 - hand tools, i.e. disc sander and grinder.
- Abrade area immediately surrounding repair to provide key for subsequent paint application.
- Apply the paint system in accordance with International's recommendations. If small areas are involved and application is by brush, several coats may be required to achieve the correct dry film thickness.

CURING In order for any lining system to perform as expected, sufficient cure time must be allowed before being placed into service. The recommended temperature and humidity as specified on individual product data sheets must be maintained over a 24 hours basis throughout the cure cycle. The length of time require is dependent on the coatings intended in-service use, substrate temperature and relative humidity. Consult International Protective Coatings for details.

1.	Interline 910 Fibreglass Systems	1.1	Blast clean to Sa2½ (ISO 8501-1, SSPC SP-10) sharp angular profile 75-100 μm (3-4 mils).
		1.2	Apply 1 x 15-25µm (0.6-1.0 mils) Interline epoxy primer.
		1.3	Apply Interline 903 caulk to allow smooth transition over welds, repairs, etc.
		1.4	Apply 1 x 1250-1400µm (50-56 mils) Interline 910/Interline 992 laminate.
		1.5	Apply 1 x 300µm (12 mils) Interline 910.
2.	Pre-application Requirements	2.1	Tanks with riveted construction shells, where necessary, shall have the following mechanical repairs made prior to coating the tank bottom.
			 All butt joints in the bottom chime angle shall be welded solid to provide a continuous chime angle.
			Install an adequate water stop in all vertical lap or butt joints in bottom.
		2.2	Pre-cut steel plates shall be pre-coated and installed under support bases.
			Cone Roof Tanks
			If possible, pre-cut steel plates, approximately $6mm$ (¼") thick of adequate size to extend 15cm (6") beyond the roof support base in all directions. The plates are for installation under the bases of all roof support columns and other free standing equipment supports, prior to coating the remainder of the tank bottom.
			The plate should be blast cleaned to the standard specified in Section 3 and coated with Interline epoxy primer. Hand lay, typically 350gm^2 (1.2 oz/ft^2) chopped strand mat using Interline 910 solvent free epoxy leaving a 7.5cm (3") strip the entire perimeter of each plate uncoated.
			The fibreglass mat should be oversealed with Interline solvent free epoxy as per Section 7.
			If the raised leg is hollow, properly wrap to prevent oil contamination.
			The coated plates shall be centred under each support base and attached to the tank bottom by one of the following methods:-
			(a) By Welding. Place the coated plate in position under the support base and continuously weld with 6mm (¼") full fillet weld to tank bottom.
			(b) By Adhesive. Blast clean the area on the tank bottom corresponding to the plate size to the standard specified in Section 4. Thoroughly mix Interline 903 caulk and apply a coat to the underside of the plate and the tank bottom and place the plate in position. Apply a full filled of caulking to the plate edges.
			Properly designed and placed guide clips shall be attached to the coated plates under all roof support column bases. The guide clips shall be designed and placed to permit free vertical movement of the columns and prevent any portional movement.

To be used in conjunction with Interline Working Procedures

prevent any horizontal movement.

Interline 910 Technical Specification – Glass Fibre Reinforced Systems

	Floating Roof Tanks
	Steel plates approximately 6mm $(\frac{1}{4}^{n})$ thick and 45 x 45cm (18" x 18") square to be prepared and coated as per Cone Roof Tanks and installed centred under all roof support column bases, vacuum breakers and any other equipment projecting below the roof deck which could contact the floor in the down position.
2.3	Prior to carrying out blasting the following steel defects must be repaired:-
	Weld spatter and weld lumps removed
	Weld slag removed
	 Ragged or sharp edges to be rounded to minimum 12mm (½") radius
	Laminations removed
2.4	Coating materials should be stored in warm, dry conditions.
	It is important that the fibreglass is kept dry.
	Prior to use the materials may require heating dependent on ambient temperatures. See product data sheets.
2.5	The following environmental conditions stipulated on the individual product data sheet must be observed during coating application, i.e.
	Steel Temperature : Minimum 10°C (50°F)
	Relative Humidity : 60% at 10°C (50°F)
	Dew Point : The steel temperature must be at least 3°C (8°F) above the Dew Point for prevailing environmental conditions.
	ghlighted in the Interline Working Procedures document and on individual ct data sheets.

4.	Priming	4.1	blasti syste	ng p m a	actical programi nd appli s into the	me. ed	Holdi at the	ng p	rimer	sm	ust b	e c	compa	tibl	e wi	th the	linin	g

- 4.2 If practical, normally in small vessels only or in larger tanks where small areas will be blasted and then coated after a short period, the blast standard may be maintained by use of dehumidification only. If maintaining standard by this method the standard must meet the requirements stipulated in the individual product data sheets.
- 4.3 Interline epoxy tank primer should be applied as per specification in Section 1.

5.	Cold Steel Repairs	Penetrations in the steel bottom plates up to a maximum 2.5cms (1") diameter may be patched with minimum 6mm (¼") thick steel plate sized to extend a minimum of 7.5cms (3") beyond the penetration in all directions. The plates should be prepared in accordance with Section 3. The penetration and immediate area should be flooded with Interline 903 caulk and the plate pushed firmly into place. Alternatively, plates may be welded in place.							
6.	Caulking	6.1	Application of Interline 903 caulk is carried out using the equipment recommended on the data sheet.						
			Apply to all weld seams, lap joints, shell joints, rivet heads or other surface projections to provide a smooth uniform transition. It is important that the surface provided by the caulking is regular and even.						
		6.2	Deep pitted areas in the shell or bottom plate should be filled with Interline 903 caulk by filling knife or squeegee and levelled flush with the adjoining plate.						
7.	Application of the	7.1	Spray Application						
	Fibreglass Reinforced Epoxy Coating System	7.1.1	All application of the chopped fibreglass reinforced epoxy coating system carried out using the equipment as recommended by International Protective Coatings.						
		7.1.2	Spray apply Interline 910 solvent free epoxy incorporating chopped, continuous fibreglass roving at a level of 300-400gm-2 (1-1.3 oz/ft2). Immediately after application the mat formed by spraying shall be thoroughly rolled to embed the fibreglass strands, eliminate air entrapment in the coating film, forming a compact uniform laminate. The rolled coating film must be periodically checked and have a wet film thickness 1250-1400µm (50-56 mils).						
			Spray applications should overlap 7.5cms (3") onto the coated surface of the precoated tank bottom column support plates and extend up a minimum 5cms of all attached appurtenances and to the required height on the lower shell course.						
		7.1.3	Following each day's application or when the laminate is sufficiently hard, the surface should be visually inspected. Protruding fibreglass strands or other irregularities should be removed by abrading with either coarse abrasive paper or orbital sanders. Dry film thicknesses should be recorded at this stage and typically be in the range 1250-1400 μ m (50-56 mils).						
		7.2	Hand Lay Up Application						
		7.2.1	The fibre glass reinforcement shall be random chopped $300-450 \text{gm}^2$ (1-1.5oz/ft ²) fibre glass mat. To avoid breakdown of the primer in the curb angle, due to possible condensation on the underside of the roof and shell, or leaking around the seal during possible rain, laminate this area first. This area should include the 45cm (18") of the shell and 7.5cm (3)" onto the floor plate. Do not seam this laminate directly in the curb angle.						
			The tank bottom surface shall be marked off in strips based on the width of the fibre glass mat. The mark off pattern shall provide a minimum of a 7.5cm (3") overlap on all fibre glass joints.						

Interline 910 Technical Specification – Glass Fibre Reinforced Systems

		7.2.2	It may be necessary to apply the epoxy coating and fibre glass mat in alternate stripes of the mark-off pattern. This is determined by the width of the fibre glass mat used. This procedure is required to ensure adequate working space and to make sure the entire mat can be adequately rolled during application.
			The fibre glass mat shall be pre-cut in lengths convenient for handling and re-rolled in individual rolls.
		7.2.3	Spray apply 500-750µm (20-30 mils) of thoroughly mixed Interline 910 to cover the width of the strip and the length of the pre-cut fibre glass mat. Lay the pre-cut mat and immediately spray apply 600µm (24 mils) of Interline 910 to completely saturate the mat. Roll the entire surface immediately with a suitable ribbed roller to eliminate wrinkles and/or air entrapment and to embed all fibre glass strands. Repeat this application procedure until the entire surface is coated.
		7.2.4	Visually inspect the laminate after initial hardening has occurred. Projecting fibre glass strands shall be sanded flush with the adjoining coated surface. The saturated laminate shall be a minimum of 1250µm (50 mils) dry film thickness.
8.	Application of the Epoxy Gel Coat	8.1	Application of the Interline 910 solvent free epoxy is carried out using normal airless spray or approved hot twin feed, however, it is recommended at ambient temperature up to 25°C (77°F) a suitable line heat is used to facilitate good airless spray properties.
		8.2	Interline 910 solvent free epoxy must be applied to the laminate surfaces strictly within the specified recoat interval. Where recoat intervals are exceeded the laminate must be thoroughly abraded using appropriate equipment to give an acceptable, coarse profile. Any debris from preparation of the laminate must be removed by thorough sweeping and vacuuming.
		8.3	Spray apply Interline 910 solvent free epoxy to a film thickness of 250- 500µm (10-20 mils), ensuring a smooth uniform finish is achieved. Immediately after application, the Gel coat may be thoroughly rolled using short nap rollers to ensure any porosity in the applied laminate is satisfied.
		8.4	After completion of the coating application, surfaces should be examined for glass fibre protrusions. Any present should be removed by mechanical abrasion and the area coated with Interline 910 solvent free epoxy.
		8.4	The film thickness of the applied system should be checked and be of a minimum 1600 μ m (64 mils) thickness.
		8.6	Areas blast cleaned and primed but not fibreglassed shall be treated with Interline 910 solvent free epoxy by brush, roller or spray application, e.g. pipes etc.

Interline 910 Technical Specification – Glass Fibre Reinforced Systems

9. Inspection	9.1 The coating system shall receive a final inspection with a high frequency spark type Holiday Detector. The instrument shall be set at minimum 100 volts per 25µm (1 mil) thickness.
	9.2 Prior to reinstatement into service the laminate must be allowed to cure in well ventilated conditions for a period specified by International Protective Coatings.
10. Repairs	10.1 A major repair should essentially be dealt with as if the project were beginning. The recommendations given in the Interline 910 working procedures and technical specifications for steel preparation, coating application etc, and MUST all be adhered to.
	10.2 Minor areas damaged either at the initial coating stage, or caused during service, i.e. tank cleaning equipment damages, spot corrosion etc. may be suitable for localised repair work. The exact nature of the repair work will depend upon the extent of the damage, and coating replacement area involved. Consult International Protective Coatings for specific advice.
11. Curing	In order for any lining to perform as expected, sufficient cure time must be allowed before being placed into service. The recommended temperature and humidity as specified on individual product data sheets must be maintained over a 24 hour basis throughout the cure cycle. The length of time required is dependent on the coatings intended in-service use, substrate temperature and relative humidity. Consult International Protective Coatings for details.

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