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## PRODUCT DATA SHEET – FIBREGLASS

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# 380 Swimming Pool Paint

### SURFACE PREPARATION

A thorough inspection of the surface must be undertaken to determine soundness. Any suspect areas must be repaired using a suitable fibreglass repair kit. After the necessary repairs have been carried out the entire surface needs to be sanded until it is dull and has a sandpapery feel. Thoroughly waterblast the sanded surface to ensure any loose debris is removed. Leave the surface to thoroughly dry before painting.

### PAINTING THE POOL

#### THE PAINT

380 Swimming pool paint is different from most conventional paints and requires special application techniques that are simple and easy to follow, but are very important to ensure an excellent result is achieved.

Each coat of chlorinated rubber paint penetrates and softens previous chlorinated rubber coats and welds itself to that surface. This means exceptional intercoat adhesion, but demands the application of thin films without excessively working the surface.

If chlorinated rubber paint is applied too thickly or is worked too much as a result of too much paint on the roller or brush surface then bubbles or blisters may result.

#### PAINTING

Before starting the paint job, check the weather forecast especially for rain or heavy dew. Condensation of the surface may cause discolouration or coating failure.

Unpainted fibreglass pools require 2 coats of paint. The first coat may require thinning between 5-20%. Apply this coat by brush or roller. Allow at least 24 hours drying time. The second coat is applied straight out of the can.

Once the second coat has been applied, leave it 2-3 days before filling with water in summer and up to 7 days in winter. Filling before this time will affect the life expectancy of the coating and cause discolouration.

#### TIPS FOR PAINTING

1. Application by brush, roller or airless spray. Application by roller is preferred.

2. Apply two finish coats or paint as it comes in the tin. Thinning is not normally necessary or recommended except as required for certain airless equipment.
3. When cutting in (along tile line, around openings etc.):
  - Minimize brush drag and over working the paint
  - Use a 50mm or 75 mm brush
  - When brush is dipped into the paint wipe off all excess
  - Do only a small area at a time
4. Application by roller:
  - Use a 9mm nap roller sleeve, roller handle extension and appropriate roller tray
  - Use only a small quantity of paint
  - Do only a small area at a time
  - Too much paint on the roller: (a) is hard to spread, (b) will excessively soften the existing coat, and (c) cause solvent entrapment resulting in bubbles and blisters
5. To load the roller:
  - Place it just on the edge of the paint in the tray so as to pick up a small quantity of paint
  - Work the roller by rolling it up and down the roller tray above the paint line until a small but even amount of paint coats the roller
  - This should cover approximately 1m<sup>2</sup> without too much paint being applied and with excess working of the paint
6. If bubbles do appear before the paint film is completely dry they may have to be removed by brushing lightly with Chlorinated Rubber thinners. If touch up recoating is necessary it should be delayed an extra day before filling.

## WATER CHEMISTRY

Maintaining stable water chemistry is essential in maximizing and maintaining the life and appearance of your pool. The following table shows recommended ranges and test frequencies for stable water chemistry.

FACTOR	RANGE	TEST FREQUENCY
pH	7.2-7.6	Daily
Free Chlorine	1.0-2.0	Daily
Total Alkalinity	100-150 ppm	Weekly
Calcium Hardness	200-300 ppm	Monthly
Stabiliser	35-60 ppm	Monthly

**pH Levels** – pH is a measurement of the acidity or alkalinity of a solution. The pH scale commonly in use ranges from 0 to 14. 7 is used to designate pH neutral solutions, numbers above 7 indicate increasing alkalinity and numbers below 7 indicating increasing acidity. Low pH, combined with UV rays will accelerate the degradation of a pool lining.

**Total Alkalinity** – alkalinity is a measure of the total amount of alkaline minerals dissolved in water. Alkalinity levels between 100-150 ppm helps to resist fluctuations in pH.

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Due to differences in substrates, application methods and local conditions purchasers of this product must ensure that it is suitable for their specific application before using this product. While the information contained in the PDS is accurate to the best of our knowledge, Paintec Pty Ltd cannot guarantee that the information contained is wholly comprehensive. Subject to the provisions of the Trade Practices Act, the Company's liability in relation to defective product shall be limited to replacement or repair of the product or the supply of equivalent product.

**Calcium Hardness** – this refers to the total amount of dissolved minerals in the water. Low calcium hardness can cause corrosion of the pool surface, filters, heaters etc. High calcium hardness can cause cloudy water. Signs that your calcium hardness levels might be out of balance include:

- eye and skin irritation
- corrosion of metals (e.g., pump seals, heaters, lights etc)
- a white chalky scale build up on the pool surface

Some chemicals added to pool water can react with each other to form salts, which, over time, can form a precipitate on the walls and floor of the pool. This is more likely to occur in new pools and pools that are improperly balanced. Improperly balanced water affects the solubility of certain minerals, factors such as increased water temperature, high pH and high total alkalinity decrease the solubility of minerals thereby increasing the likelihood of a stain forming on the walls and floor of the pool. It is important that you regularly test your water to ensure that you minimise the chances of scale formation, as well as increasing the life of your pool lining. If there is a significant scale build up the pool needs to be drained and the scale scrubbed off either with solvent or an acid wash. Following this, the surface needs to be thoroughly water-blasted and allowed to dry before filling.

## **TROUBLESHOOTING**

There are certain circumstances that arise that can affect the appearance and performance of the chlorinated rubber pool coatings. Below are outlined some of the common situations, what the possible cause is and how it can be remedied.

**1. STAINING** – this is when a fine powdery coating forms on the surface resulting in a reduction in gloss.

### **Possible causes**

- i) The pool is filled too soon, before the paint is fully cured
- ii) The depositing of soluble salts onto the paint surface caused by unstable water chemistry, super-chlorinated water or over treating water with calcium hypochlorite
- iii) Application of the paint at low temperatures

### **Possible Solutions**

- i) Ensure that the paint is left to cure for the recommended time before filling, this might be longer in winter
- ii) High chlorine levels affect chalking, keep levels in line with recommendations. Also, regular brushing and filtration helps minimize chalking.
- iii) Check calcium hardness levels and consult your pool shop for remedies.
- iv) Drain the pool and leave to dry. Then either acid wash or solvent wash the entire surface.

**2. BLISTERING** – is when the coating shows cracks and peeling from the substrate.

### **Possible Causes**

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- i) Using a medium (12mm) to long nap (20mm) roller which draws too much air into the paint
- ii) Painting over a moist or damp surface
- iii) Painting during high temperature (over 30°C)
- iv) Applying the paint too thick
- v) Filling the pool before it is cured
- vi) Incompatible paints

**Possible Solutions**

- i) Apply at recommended coverage rates
- ii) Ensure that the surface is dry prior to painting
- iii) Ensure paint is fully cured before filling with water

**3. BUBBLES** - Bubbles should not appear if the paint is correctly applied.

**Possible Causes**

- i) Painting over a damp or poorly cleaned surface
- ii) Use of too much paint resulting in an excessively thick finish coat
- iii) Finish coat 'worked' too much
- iv) Applying the next coat before the previous coat has dried

**Possible Solution**

- i) If bubbles should appear on the surface of the paint after it has become tacky or touch dry they can be collapsed and removed by brushing them lightly with a little Chlorinated Rubber thinners.
- ii) If bubbles have hardened, they should be depressed using finger pressure or a rolling pin. It is important not to burst or scrape any bubbles. Once depressed the bubbles will reform to a smooth film as the pool is filled with water.

**COVERAGE** – 8-10m<sup>2</sup> per litre

**PACKS** – 4 litre, 10 litre

**COLOURS** – Olympic Blue, Amazon Blue, White, Black and Colour Card Colours

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