

Information Data Sheet

Industry research Sheen Staining or Gloss Banding

Information as supplied from Australian Paint Manufacturers Federation as a result of extensive

Reference - T12

Information: This statement refers to joints that have been set consistent with good practice. Incidences of what is commonly known as sheen staining or gloss banding have been investigated by the APMF Technical Reference Group in conjunction with experts representing the plasterboard manufacturers.

After reviewing laboratory test results, scientific analyses and information gathered from the field, the Working Group has established that sheen staining is a multi-variable phenomenon involving jointing compound composition, paint characteristics and the manner and conditions in which both materials are applied.

Factors which promote sheen staining include partial drying between coats of jointing cement, use of low viscosity joint cement and low viscosity paint. Products that perform satisfactorily in by far the majority of all applications can still be susceptible to sheen staining when subjected to a combination of the variables.

The Working Group has therefore reached the conclusion that, to minimise or eliminate the occurrence of sheen staining, a three-coat paint system must be specified as defined in Australian Standards AS 2311: The Painting of Buildings.

The first coat would need to be sealer of specific composition to substantially reduce migration of material into or out of the substrate. Ideally this sealer would be water-borne to avoid (a) fibre raising of the paper facing, (b) VOC odour concerns, and (c) delays in re-coating.

Where there is any doubt as to the correct sealer to be used advice should be sought from the coatings supplier.

Since the new housing market often utilises paint systems which do not meet these requirements no guarantee can be provided against the occurrence of sheen staining. The Working Group believes that only the specifier or builder can assess whether the low incidence of sheen staining-g justifies the use of the formally recommended three coat system on all work.

If the three-coat system above is not selected, the plasterboard and paint manufacturers cannot rule out the possible occurrence of sheen staining, albeit low, and therefore cannot be held responsible for rectification costs.

The Working Group believes that all paint manufacturers should be technically able to recommend effective, minimal cost rectification painting procedures should sheen staining be experienced when the building I specifier has selected a two-coat system.

For further information contact the Australian Paint Manufacturers' Federation inc.

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