

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT VOC COMPLIANT ACRYLICS

BACKGROUND:

Due to recent changes in Canada for EPA Standards, solvent based coatings have been reformulated nationwide to contain lower VOC's (volatile organic compounds). Lower VOC's contributes to a cleaner environment for us all. VOC's are contained in the solvent portion only of the acrylic sealer, not the resin portion. There are only a handful of solvents that are VOC exempt, the main one being used is Acetone, a more expensive option for the manufacturer is the Tert-butyl Acetate.

CORNERSTONE'S APPLICATION HAS NOT CHANGED:

Premium Acrylic and Advance Acrylic brands from Cornerstone Coatings are now VOC compliant with no change in the application method. Contractors can either roll or spray the product as before. Our acrylics can be applied at temperatures up to 20C.

The typical competitor we have found has gone to the acetone solvent, which can cause a variety of new problems. It is extremely difficult to apply the product to get an even finish. You cannot roll the product and it is recommended that you have to apply the product very early in the morning or late in the evening. If not done in the cool of the day, the product will dry too fast and cause poor adhesion, uneven finish, and spider webbing.

FLAMMABILITY

Cornerstone has carefully chosen their solvent for a number of reasons. The flashpoint or flammability of the solvent is one of the lowest in the market at 5C making our acrylic the safest acrylic to use. The solvent we use is slow release, which means the sealer can be rolled on, it can be applied at warmer temperatures, and the slow release of the solvent allows the acrylic to properly penetrate and bond to the surface producing a durable long term result.

The typical competitors are incorporating acetone into their mix with a -18 C flashpoint; acetone is extremely flammable and volatile, so safety is always an issue when using an acetone based product. Many consumers are aware of the dangers of acetone so to try and appease the fear of the consumers the use of such words as oxygenated solvents, 2-propanone, dimethylketone, dimethylketal, pyroacetic acid, pyroacetic ether are being used instead of the word acetone.

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