L.N. 95 of 1980

QUALITY CONTROL (EXPORTS, IMPORTS AND LOCAL GOODS) ACT, 1971

(ACT NO. XIII OF 1971)

Ready-mixed Undercoat for Enamel Paint Order, 1980 (Order No. M6 of 1980)

IN exercise of the powers conferred by section 3 of the Quality Control (Exports, Imports and Local Goods) Act, 1971, and in accordance with that section, the Malta Board of Standards has made the following order: —

Citation and commencement.

1.1. This order may be cited as the Ready-mixed Undercoat for Enamel Paint Order, 1980, and may be referred to as Order No. M6 of 1980.

1.2. This order shall become operative on a date after the lapse of 20 days from the day on which it is laid on the Table of the House of Representatives, which date shall be notified by the Board in the Gazette.

Scope.

2.1. This order applies to ready-mixed undercoat for enamel paints intended mainly for painting both interior and exterior surfaces for domestic use.

Interpretation.

3.1. In this order —

3.1.1. "A.S.T.M." means the American Society for Testing and Materials;

3.1.2. "B.S." refers to the British Standard of the British Standards Institution;

3.1.3. "consistency" means the apparent viscosity of a paint when shearing forces of varying degrees are applied to it in various ways, such as when it is stirred in the can, poured from the vessel to the other, brushed, or otherwise spread over a surface;

3.1.4. "drying" means the process of change of a coat of paint from a liquid to the solid state, due to the evaporation of the solvent to the physico-chemical reactions of the binding medium, or to a combination of these causes. Various successive stages in the drying of paint are distinguished by the following qualifying terms, with corresponding times;

3.1.4.1. "surface dry" — when the paint is dry on the surface but is soft and tucky underneath, which is also commonly known as "sand-dry";

3.1.4.2. "hard dry" — when drying has reached such a stage that, if desired, a further coat can be satisfactorily applied by brushing, if necessary, after flattening; this term is also used to describe certain degrees of film hardness when tested by specific methods;

3.1.5. "drying time" means the time which elapses between the application of a coat of paint and the attainment of a specified dry state;

3.1.6. "enamel" means paints which, when dried, have a characteristic smoothness and gloss;

3.1.7. "gloss" means the degrees to which a painted surface possesses the property of reflecting light in a mirror-like manner;

3.1.8. "opacity" means —

3.1.8.1. qualitatively, the ability of a coat (or a paint system) to obliterate the colour of the surface to which it is applied;

3.1.8.2. quantitatively, the extent to which a paint obliterates the colour of an underlying surface of a different colour when a film of it is applied by some standard method.

4.1. The paint shall be free from surface skin, it shall not have jellied, its settling shall be soft and there shall be no foreign matter present. Condition in container.

5.1. The fineness of grind, when measured by the method referred to in paragraph 15.3 shall not be more than 60 um. Fineness of grind.

6.1. The paint shall on application flow and spread well and shall show no excessive pull under the brush. The paint film shall be free from sags and runs, shall show no brushmarks, flotation of the pigment, streakiness, joint lapping, flashing or any other undesirable film characteristics. Brushing properties and appearance.

7.1. When tested by the method referred to in paragraph 15.1 the paint shall have a consistency of 180 to 280 Krebs-Stormer grams at a shearing rate of 200 revolutions per minute when measured at a temperature of 25°C ± 0.5°C. Consistency.

8.1. The paint shall be in such a condition that when tested by the method referred to in paragraph 15.3 shall become surface dry in not more than 5 hours at 25°C. Drying time.

8.2. The paint shall be in such a condition that when tested by the method referred to in paragraph 15.3 shall become hard dry in not more than 16 hours at 25°C.

9.1. The opacity of the film, prepared and tested by the method referred to in paragraph 15.1 shall be not less than 80%. Opacity.

10.1. When tested by the method referred to in paragraph 15.4 the paint shall have a gloss of not more than 20%. Gloss.

11.1. Seven days after application using a mandrel 6.0 mm diameter, the paint at a wet film thickness of 50 um shall not crack or lose adhesion when tested in the manner referred to in paragraph 15.3. Bend test.

12.1. The paint at a wet film thickness of 50 um shall resist removal after 80,000 oscillations of the abrasion machine under a load of 500g when tested by the method described in paragraph 15.5. Resistance to abrasion.

13.1. The container shall be strong enough to withstand normal usage and shall be adequately sealed to prevent leakage and contamination of contents during handling and transportation. Container.

Label.

14.1. Every container of ready-mixed undercoat for enamel paint shall bear a label showing in clear and easily readable print the following information:—

14.1.1. the colour name of the paint;

14.1.2. the brand name or trade mark, or

14.1.3. the name and address of the manufacturer;

14.1.4. where the brand name is not entered in a list kept by the Director of Industry nor is the trade mark registered with the Comptroller of Industrial Property, the inclusion in the label of the name and address of the manufacturer shall be compulsory;

14.1.5. the net contents in metric volume;

14.1.6. the warnings, or advice and directions as to use as appropriate.

Methods of test.

15.1. The opacity shall be determined by the method described in the United Kingdom Ministry of Defence Specification DEF-1053, published by Her Majesty's Stationery Office in London.

15.2. The consistency shall be determined by the method described in A.S.T.M. Specification D562-55.

15.3. Surface drying time, hard drying time, bend test and fineness of grind shall be determined by the method described in B.S. 3900.

15.4. The gloss shall be determined by the method described in A.S.T.M. Specification D523-66T.

15.5. Apparatus: The testing shall be carried out on a "REL" Abrasion Test Apparatus manufactured by Research Equipment (London) Ltd using a nylon filled brush as supplied with the apparatus.

15.5.1. Procedure: The paint specimen shall be prepared on a panel, as described in B.S. 3900 and allowed to dry hard for 7 days.

The panel shall then be fixed on the bed of the scrubbing machine and covered with distilled water. The brush shall be lowered on to the panel and a 500g load applied to the brush. The brush shall be oscillated at a constant rate across the panel and, from time to time, the panel shall be examined for any damage to the paint or any change in colour.

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