



The Wonderful World of Tech Painting

Cool Coatings...

As part of our newsletter we will be highlighting new coatings and/or applications that are making news in our industry. Very few people recognize the fascinating role that coatings play in our everyday lives. It is just one of those things that is all around you but you never notice. This month I will start by sharing the broad categories that these new coatings fall under. Many people have heard the term Nano-Technology but it is in the coatings industry that these inventions are taking shape.

Smart coatings sense a change in the environment and respond to that change. These coatings can be used to detect corrosion, stress, temperature changes, microbes and other potential problems, and then take some sort of action to repair damage or destroy the cause. Potential applications are endless - corrosion control, camouflage, bio-weapon detection and destruction, medical devices, textiles, electronics.



Peizelectric Paints can be used to measure shock and vibration damage on large structures such as bridges, off-shore platforms and pipelines. Coatings containing thermochromic pigments and polymers can serve as reversible temperature indicators in safety devices or indicators for food packaging. Numerous methods for creating anti-microbial coatings are also in development. Many of these formulations rely on some form of silver ion to destroy microbes. Others are focusing on the use of titanium dioxide as a photocatalyst to create active oxygen species that kill many different types of microbiologicals. Some researchers are taking a very different approach, and are developing resins with nanoscale features that cause physical damage to the cell walls of microbes. Photocatalysts have applications in self-cleaning coatings as well.

Ultrahydrophobic Coatings provide water repellent capabilities for use as corrosion inhibitors, stain-resistant clothing and antifouling paints. Self-stratification is a new technique for preparing coatings comprised of different types of tethered resins, each with unique properties.

Tech in The Community

One of the great things we do as a company is provide time off with pay to help local charities. Recently Ed Easton, our VP of Garage Sales partnered with one of our customers to volunteer at the Special Olympics. Ed came



back so proud of the people involved that he has promised to get the whole company involved next year.

Special Olympics was founded in the early 1960's and truly embodies the core of what our country can do. Caring for others is the highest calling and we are proud of Ed for continuing the tradition that Eunice Kennedy Shriver started.
Recycling Initiative

As of May 24th Tech has recycled:

5-gallon buckets: 1,054

1-gallon cans: 107

Total weight recycled: 2,660 lbs (1.3 ton)

If you think about it, since we have been in business now for 25 years that translates into what could have been 63,225 buckets, 6,425 cans or 159,600 pounds (80 tons) of recycled materials.

We challenge our competitors to start their own recycling plans. We have the model now it's up to them to join on!!

Decorating Corner

Using the right decorator is critical in spending your money wisely and creating what you dreamed of.

However, if you decide to give it a go yourself, we have two resources for you to check out. First is a local magazine that I think really does a good job showing design options and new products. House Beautiful is a monthly magazine that can be found online but I like the hard copy more. Another online site I have grown to like is called Houzz.com. The site is organized in a way that is easy for the layman to look at products in the actual setting they would be used. If you want to check these sites out I have included



the newsletter.

links in the link section of