



**INTERIOR WATER BASED PAINT FOR BUILDINGS**

**1 SCOPE**

This specification applies to products that are water based and designed for use on building interiors.

**2 BACKGROUND**

- a) To obtain a broad overview of the Australian Paint Approval Scheme (APAS), refer to APAS document AP-D001.
- b) To obtain an overview of restricted ingredients in APAS certified products, refer to APAS document AP-D123.
- c) To obtain the current list of APAS participating manufacturers (and suppliers) and resellers, refer to APAS document AP-D152.
- d) To obtain an overview of how to participate in the APAS, refer to APAS document AP-D177.
- e) APAS approval to this specification may be gained by compliance with the requirements detailed in this specification and those in APAS document AP-D192.

**3 DESCRIPTION AND GUIDE FOR USERS**

**3.1 General Requirements**

- a) Products approved under this specification are finishing paints for the interior of buildings that can be applied with or without thinning with water. They are typically available from stock in a manufacturer's colour range (MCR) as illustrated on a colour card with colours of lesser opacity identified.
- b) Products approved under this specification are designed for application by brush, roller or spray to primed or sealed surfaces in accordance with manufacturer's directions, typically to a dry film thickness of 25 - 40 µm per coat. Handling time typically within 6 hours.

**3.2 Sub-Classes**

- a) This specification incorporates the following sub-classes:
  - i. **0260/1:** Gloss finish
  - ii. **0260/2:** Semi-gloss finish
  - iii. **0260/3:** Low gloss finish
  - iv. **0260/4:** Washable flat finish
  - v. **0260/5:** Flat finish for ceilings

**3.3 Basis of this Specification**

- a) This specification is based on the following respective parts of AS 3730 and the corresponding Paint Reference Numbers (PRNs) of AS/NZS 2311:

| APAS Sub-class | AS 3730   | AS/NZS 2311 PRN |
|----------------|-----------|-----------------|
| 0260/1         | AS3730.12 | B9              |
| 0260/2         | AS3730.2  | B8              |
| 0260/3         | AS3730.3  | B7              |
| 0260/4         | AS3730.1  | B6              |
| 0260/5         | AS3730.1  | B6              |

**4 REFERENCED DOCUMENTS**

- a) The following standards are referenced in this document:
  - i. **AS/NZS 1580** – Paints and related materials: Methods of test
  - ii. **AS/NZS 2311** – Guide to the painting of buildings
  - iii. **AS 3730.1** – Guide to the properties of paints for buildings – Latex – Interior – Flat
  - iv. **AS 3730.2** – Guide to the properties of paints for buildings – Latex – Interior – Semi-gloss
  - v. **AS 3730.3** – Guide to the properties of paints for buildings – Latex – Interior – Low gloss
  - vi. **AS 3730.12** – Guide to the properties of paints for buildings – Latex – Interior – Gloss

These documents may be purchased through the Reference Standards Australia website: <https://www.standards.org.au/>

- vii. **The Poisons Standard June 2021:** Standard for the Uniform Scheduling of Medicines and Poisons (SUSMP) No. 33, Part 2: Control on Medicines and Poisons, Section Seven / Appendix I Paint or Tinters

This document is available from the Australian Government Federal Register of Legislation website at: <https://www.legislation.gov.au/Details/F2021L00650>

- b) The following APAS documents are referenced in this document:
  - i. AP-D001 Rules Governing How APAS® Operates
  - ii. AP-D123 Restrictions on Ingredients in Product Formulations
  - iii. AP-D152 APAS® Participating Manufacturers and Resellers
  - iv. AP-D177 Rules Governing How Product Manufacturers participate in APAS®
  - v. AP-D181 Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) Limits
  - vi. AP-D192 Rules Governing APAS® Product Certification Scheme

All APAS documents are available for download from the APAS website: <https://vs.csiro.au/apas/documents/>

**5 COMPOSITIONAL REQUIREMENTS**

**5.1 Binder**

- a) Although the type of binder is not restricted by this specification, binder types with a history of satisfactory performance include emulsion acrylics, either full or partial acrylics e.g., styrenated acrylics. Of primary importance is the compliance with the properties listed in clause 9, Table 1 below.
- b) Other binder types may be considered depending on their compliance with the requirements established below.

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### 5.2 Volatiles

- a) The volatile portion shall typically be comprised of water.
- b) For VOC content restrictions, refer to APAS document AP-D181.

### 5.3 Pigmentation

- a) Pigmentation shall be non-toxic and inert and comply with the requirements of the SUSMP.
- b) Of primary importance is that the choice of pigmentation shall result in compliance with the technical requirements detailed in clause 9, Table 1 below.

### 5.4 Colour

- a) Products approved under this specification are normally available in a wide range of colours known as the manufacturer's colour range or MCR. Refer to the manufacturer's product or technical data sheet for more information.

## 6 PRODUCT APPROVAL REQUIREMENTS

### 6.1 General Requirements

- a) The product and its application for approval shall comply with the relevant requirements of APAS document AP-D192 during the life of the approval.

### 6.2 Technical Requirements

- a) The product shall comply with **all** the requirements of clause 9, Table 1 below.
- b) Subject to compliance with all the requirements of this specification, the level of Approval appropriate to the application shall be given to the system.

### 6.3 Health and Safety Requirements

- a) The manufacturer's Safety Data Sheet (SDS) must be studied closely prior to using the product and complied with during use of the product.
- b) Products intended for sale in Australia shall comply with all the requirements of the SUSMP. Products intended for sale in other countries shall comply with all local WHS and environmental requirements.
- c) The product shall comply with all requirements of clause 6.3 and 6.4 of APAS document AP-D192.

## 7 APPENDIX A

### Polishing Test

#### 7.1 Scope:

This method is intended to simulate cleaning of wall surfaces and to exclude products which **polish** readily, with the resultant shiny and patchy appearance of a wall surface viewed at low angle under low angle incident lighting conditions.

#### 7.2 Equipment:

- i. A cork sanding pad of the same general dimensions as detailed in AS/NZS 1580.459.1 (Resistance to Washing)
- ii. Medical gauze (Handy elastic gauze No.76044/1 from Beiersdorf Aust Ltd is suitable)
- iii. Gardner scrub machine (or equivalent)
- iv. Tap water
- v. Leneta test panels approx. 150 x 300 mm

#### 7.3 Procedure:

- i. This test largely follows the method detailed in AS/NZS 1580.459.1 (Resistance to Washing) with changes to the procedure as detailed below.
- ii. Prepare test panel by drawing down the test paint on the Leneta chart using a #32 wire wound bar. Other equivalent alternative methods of applying a film may be used.
- iii. Allow the test panel to dry for 7 days at ambient temperature.
- iv. Measure and record the gloss using a 60° gloss head.
- v. Substitute the cork sanding block for the foam pad.
- vi. Wrap at least 4 layers of the medical gauze around the block in the direction of scrubbing.
- vii. Soak the gauze in tap water for 10 minutes (detergent is not used).
- viii. Operate the scrubbing machine continuously for 200 cycles.
- ix. On completion of the 200 cycles, allow panel to dry for 2 hours and determine the gloss level of the scrubbed area using a 60° gloss head.

#### 7.4 Reporting:

Report the change in 60° gloss.



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### 8 APPENDIX B

#### Colourant Acceptance

##### 8.1 **Scope:**

This method details the test method to be utilised to demonstrate a satisfactory level of colour development through the addition of machine colourants.

##### 8.2 **Equipment:**

- i. 500 mL of each tinting base in the MCR
- ii. A machine colourant tinting system
- iii. A sealed cardboard test panel of approx. size 150 x 100 mm for each colour

##### 8.3 **Procedure:**

- i. **Selection of colour:** The colour shall be selected using the same process as detailed in APAS document AP-D192 Appendix A, clause A3:
  - a. Where the colourant system is well established in the Australasian marketplace, one colour per tint base as detailed in Table A1.
  - b. Where the colourant system is new to the region, sample preparation and colourant testing as per clause A3 a) i. of the above document shall be conducted.
- ii. Test panels are then prepared as follows:
  - a. To a sealed cardboard panel apply one coat of test paint (typically by 0.032 wire wound bar coater) and allow to dry (may be forced dry or allowed to dry overnight).
  - b. Apply a further coat of test paint to the cardboard panel using the same wire wound coater.
  - c. Using a finger with gentle pressure, immediately rub an area of the film about 30 mm in diameter in a circular motion until a slight tackiness is detected. Allow the panel to dry overnight.
- iii. The difference in colour between the two sections on the panel shall not exceed a rating of 1 when assessed using test method AS/NZS 1580.481.1.12.
- iv. Test panels of dimensions 100 x 150 mm demonstrating the colour acceptance and including details of each colourant included in each panel, are to be supplied to APAS.



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9 TABLE 1: PERFORMANCE PROPERTIES

| TEST   | AS/NZS 1580 METHOD | REQUIREMENTS  |
|--|--------------------|---|
| <b>General Requirements</b>                                  |                    |   |
| General Requirements   | <b>AS 3730.X</b>   | Shall comply with <b>all</b> the requirements of <b>clause 5 Typical Properties and Characteristics</b> and <b>Table 1</b> of the applicable Standard as defined in clause 3.3 a) above (except for the washability test for sub-class AP-S0260/5).<br><br><b>All test results shall be reported.</b>           |
| Non-volatile Content by Volume (Volume Solids)               | 301.2              | <b>White product only:</b><br><b>0260/1:</b> Minimum 32%.<br><b>0260/2:</b> Minimum 34%.<br><b>0260/3:</b> Minimum 36%.<br><b>0260/4 and 0215/5:</b> Not specified.<br><br>• Volume solids may be determined theoretically from raw material data except where solid constituents incorporate sealed air voids. |
| VOC Content  | APAS AP-D181       | Refer to APAS document AP-D181 for method and limits.<br><br>If the APAS specification is not listed on AP-D181, a declaration of VOC content is <b>still required</b> .  |
| <b>Wet Paint Tests</b>                                       |                    |   |
| Viscosity<br>- High Shear Viscosity<br>- Low Shear Viscosity | 214.3<br>214.x     | 0.1 – 0.4 Pa.s.<br>To be recorded.  |
| Odour  |                    | The paint shall not exhibit any offensive or irritating odour during application or drying and shall be substantially free from odour after air drying for 24 hours.  |
| Storage Stability  |                    | In addition to the requirements stated in AS 3730.X, the application of the aged sample shall produce a smooth film of uniform colour and appearance when tested in accordance with AS 1580.205.1 & 3.  |
| <b>Dry Film Tests</b>  |                    |   |
| Specular Gloss   | 602.2              | <b>0260/1:</b> > 50 GU at 60°.<br><b>0260/2:</b> > 20 ≤ 50 GU at 60°.<br><b>0260/3:</b> > 5 ≤ 20 GU at 60°.<br><b>0260/4:</b> < 5 GU at 60°.<br><b>0260/5:</b> < 2 GU at 85°.   |



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| TEST                           | AS/NZS<br>1580<br>METHOD | REQUIREMENTS  |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| <b>Dry Film Tests (Cont.,)</b> |                          |   |
| Polishing Test                 | Clause 7,<br>Appendix A  | Products shall be tested in accordance with Clause 7, Appendix A.<br>Change in gloss of scrubbed area for:<br><b>0260/1, 0260/2 and 0260/3:</b> Shall be $\leq 4$ gloss units at 60°.<br><b>0260/4:</b> shall be $\leq 4$ gloss units at 85°.<br><b>0215/5:</b> Not applicable. |
| Colourant Acceptance           | Clause 8,<br>Appendix B  | Products shall be tested in accordance with Clause 8, Appendix B.<br>Colour difference $\leq 1$ .   |



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### 10 APPENDIX C

#### Document History

Status: Current  
Version: 5  
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| Document Version No.: | Date Published: | Summary of Changes:   |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---|
| 5                     | 10-09-2021      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• General format changes</li><li>• Updated background information in clause 2</li><li>• Updated SUSMP information</li><li>• Updated APAS website information</li></ul>  |
| 4                     | 02-12-2020      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Addition of Appendix C Document History and removal of the Editorial Note previously used in specification versions</li><li>• Updated document to the current format</li><li>• Updated internal and external document references</li><li>• Inclusion of VOC Content requirement to Table 1 Performance Properties</li><li>• Addition of "People + Product = Protection" to Footer</li></ul> |
| 3                     | 04-09-2013      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Aligned Appendix test methods with AP-VS0215</li><li>• Eliminated duplication between AS 3730 test requirements</li></ul>   |
| 2                     | 04-02-2011      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Document in new format</li><li>• Appendix B was simplified and aligned with AP-D192</li></ul>   |
| 1                     | 23-10-2003      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Deletes reference to GPC and incorporated a general format update</li></ul>   |
| 0                     | 14-03-2001      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Combined several of the former GPC specifications into the one document under the new specification numbering system (old specification numbers: GPC-L-26, 27, 164)</li></ul>   |