



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

giving our students the world

Superintendent of Schools
Alberto M. Carvalho

Miami-Dade County School Board

*Dr. Solomon C. Stinson, Chair
Dr. Marta Pérez, Vice Chair
Agustin J. Barrera
Renier Díaz de la Portilla
Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman
Perla Tabares Hantman
Dr. Wilbert "Tee" Holloway
Dr. Martin Karp
Ana Rivas Logan*

L-1271-DD
October 30, 2009

Florida School Plant Management Association
Product Evaluation Program
Paint Specification Committee

Re: Florida School Plant Management Association (FSPMA) Paint Committee Meetings of October 1st, 15th, and 29th, 2009.

Dear Committee Members:

FSPMA Paint Committee meetings were held on October 1st, 2009 at the Rosen Plaza Hotel (9:00 pm) located at 9700 International Drive 7889 Fruitville Road, Orlando, FL 32819 and on October 15th and 29th, 2009 at the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Materials Testing and Evaluation Department (11:00 am) located at 7040 West Flagler Street, Miami, FL 33144, respectively.

October 1, 2009 Meeting

Education Members Present:

Mr. Dan O'Brien, Broward County Public Schools, Chairperson
Mr. Angelo Thomas, Brevard County Public Schools
Mr. Herb Johnson, Brevard County Public Schools
Mr. Louis Stoecklin, Sarasota County Public Schools
Mr. John Colasanti, Citrus County Public Schools
Ms. Doraida Diaz, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Industrial Members Present:

Mr. Bruce Alvin, INSL-X/Coronado Paints
Mr. John Seidensticker, Behr
Mr. James Keeney, PPG
Mr. Mathew Heald, Sherwin Williams
Mr. John Garger, Tandus

October 15, 2009 Meeting

Education Members Present:

Mr. Dan O'Brien, Broward County Public Schools, Chairperson
Mr. Don Beavers, Broward County Public Schools
Mr. Alberto Velazquez, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Ms. Mercedes Leon, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Ms. Doraida Diaz, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Industrial Members Present:

Mr. Bruce Alvin, INSL-X/Coronado Paints
Mr. John Seidensticker, Behr
Mr. James Keeney, PPG
Mr. Mathew Heald, Sherwin Williams

October 29, 2009 Meeting

Education Members Present:

Mr. Dan O'Brien, Broward County Public Schools, Chairperson
Mr. Mario Bardelas, Broward County Public Schools
Mr. Alberto Velazquez, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Ms. Mercedes Leon, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Ms. Doraida Diaz, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Mr. Doug Durham, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
Me. Richard Simmons, Miami-Dade County Public Schools

Industrial Members Present:

Mr. John Seidensticker, Behr
Mr. James Keeney, PPG
Mr. Mathew Heald, Sherwin Williams

Mr. Dan O'Brien, Committee Chairman, called the meetings after all participating members had introduced themselves and the quorum of Educational Members had been confirmed on each reunion.

At the October 1, 2009 meeting the FSPMA Paint Committee Report¹ prepared by the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Materials Testing and Evaluation Department (MT&E) was presented. The report contains the previous committee meeting minutes, a current version of the FSPMA-certified brand list, and a historical summary report of paint testing and payment activity. A list of paint samples currently placed on exterior exposure conditions were also included in the report which was approved unanimously by the committee.

A follow-up on the agreements reached at the previous committee meeting was conducted by Mr. O'Brien. Consequently, the topics included in the agenda were addressed and the discussions and associated agreements reached at the referred meetings are recorded in detail below.

¹ The report was posted on the MT&E website (<http://materials.dadeschools.net/>) to make it accessible to all committee members prior to the meeting.

Changes proposed by Behr representatives in the acceptance criteria included in selected paint FSPMA specifications for viscosity, non-volatile matter, and resin types were discussed as listed in the meeting agenda and considered acceptable by committee members because they are not expected to affect the field performance outcome of brands certified under those categories with the new criteria.

Committee Agreements (unanimous):

- *The following changes will be made to the indicated FSPMA specs and the version numbers (in red) will be correspondingly adjusted. The revised specifications will be prepared by Ms. Diaz from MT&E and posted on both the MT&E (<http://materials.dadeschools.net/>) and the official FSPMA (<http://www.fspma.com/>) websites:*
 - a) *MP-1.10-‘Latex-Base, Interior, Flat, White, and Tints’: The acceptable maximum level for Consistency/KU will be raised from 100 (+5) to 110 (+5).*
 - b) *MP-2.11 -‘ Acrylic-Base, Exterior, Flat White and Tints’: The acceptable maximum level for Consistency/KU will be raised from 95 (+5) to 110 (+5).*
 - c) *MP-21.5-‘ Elastomeric, Acrylic-Base, Exterior, Flat, White and Tints’: The acceptable minimum level for Non-Volatile Matter as % by volume of paint will be reduced from 50 to 48.*
 - d) *MP-27.4 -‘ Acrylic Base, Gloss, Exterior, White & Tints’: The acceptable maximum level for Consistency/KU will be raised from 108 (+3) to 110 (+5) for types I and II.*
 - e) *MP-28.5 -‘ Acrylic Base, Semi-gloss, Exterior, White & Tints’: The acceptable maximum level for Consistency/KU will be raised from 108 (+3) to 110 (+5) for types I and II.*
 - f) *MP-29.4 -‘Latex Acrylic-Base, Interior Enamel, Satin-Gloss, White & Tints’: The acceptable maximum level for Consistency/KU will be raised from 108 (+3) to 110 (+5).*
 - g) *MP-30.3 -‘ Acrylic-Latex Base, Exterior, Flat Wood Primer’: Styrene acrylic latex-based resin systems will be accepted in addition to pure acrylic resins with allowable adhesion modifiers.*
 - h) *MP-39.2 -‘Latex Base, Low Odor, Low VOC Eggshell, Interior White and Tints: The acceptable maximum level for Consistency/KU will be raised from 100 (+5) to 110 (+5).*
 - i) *MP-52.2-‘ High Performance Bonding Primer’: Styrene acrylic latex-based resin systems will be accepted in addition to acrylic urethanes.*
-

The proposed six new LEED-Equivalent paint specification drafts listed in the agenda were presented by a sub-committee conformed by Mr. Bruce Alvin, INSL-X/Coronado Paints; Mr. Albert Guzman, Richards Paints; Mr. John Seidensticker, Behr; Mr. Tony Orlandi, Sherwin Williams; and Mr. James Keeney, PPG. The discussion focused mostly on the inclusion of alkali resistance and scrubability tests in these specs as well as on the appropriate acceptance criteria to be included for these requirements. The adequacy of accepting indirect analytical methods like the EPA Method 24 for the determination of VOC levels in organic coatings was also addressed.

Alkali Resistance

The issue of whether to maintain alkalinity resistance tests in LEED-Equivalent paints was raised by Mr. Alvin from INSL-X/Coronado Paints who expressed that it was not reasonable to establish alkalinity resistance acceptable limits because schools won't be applying these products to highly alkaline substrates like plaster but on drywall and aged block. However, Mr. Doug Durham from the Paint Quality Group of Miami-Dade County Public Schools said that he would favor keeping the alkali resistance test as a requirement because there might be some applications in which the coating would be applied on highly alkaline substrates and field failures may occur.

Several industrial members explained that these LEED-Equivalent paints are not going to be used directly on the surface but on a previously applied primer, therefore, any primer currently-certified under FSPMA MP-38.4- 'Exterior/Interior, Alkali Resistant-Stain Block Universal Primer/Sealer, Acrylic-Base' can be successfully used for highly alkaline substrate applications instead of the LEED-Equivalent primer.

VOC Methods

The LEED-Equivalent paint specification original drafts included in the report identified the direct methods ASTM D6886-03 and ISO 11890-2 as the only acceptable tests for the determination of VOC content (m/v) with the alternative of submitting proof of compliance with the California Department of Health Services Standard Practice for the Testing of Volatile Organic Emissions from Various Sources Using Small-Scale Environmental Chambers, including 2004 Addenda. Mr. Bruce Alvin from Coronado Paints proposed to also accept the indirect EPA Method 24 –'Determination of Volatile Matter Content, Water Content, Density, Volume Solids, and Weight Solids of Surface Coatings' equivalent to ASTM D3960.

Apparently, most paint manufacturers determine the VOC content following Method 24 based on the formulations. Even though it is an indirect method, there was consensus among participants regarding the fact that this a generally accepted analytical technique in the industry originally designed by the USA EPA which ultimately designs and implement federal environmental protection policies.

Scrubability

Ms. Diaz from MT&E suggested to add scrubability following ASTM D2486 –'Standard Test Methods for Scrub Resistance of Wall Paints' as a parameter to be evaluated in products submitted for certification under LEED-Equivalent categories (except the primer). There was a lengthy discussion regarding how to determine which modifications to the referred standard method, if any, should be implemented (using a nylon brush or a sponge, with or without a shim under the panel, etc.) as well as the minimum number of scrub cycles which should be acceptable for each category considering the inherent method variability.

Mr. Alvin expressed concern regarding the fact that every manufacturer may be conducting their scrubability evaluations following different methods and machines and proposed the conduction of a round robin test involving five laboratories (including MT&E) and three flat paints with different scrubability resistance levels (high, average, and low). The final acceptance criteria and method to be followed would then eventually be determined based on the results obtained with the round robin.

The committee considered the round robin test idea to be a good one but, eventually, practical considerations like the time and personnel involved in carrying it out as well as the certainty that it is the scrubability machine at the MT&E lab the one that will be actually used to conduct the

FSPMA certification tests, inclined most members not to accept it. Instead, there was consensus about not including the scrubability test for the flat paint and establishing a minimum of 750 scrub cycles for the rest. Mr. Simmons and Mr. Durham from Miami-Dade County Public Schools expressed that over time, as products are tested for certification, this acceptable minimum could be adjusted if needed. Any product failing certification only for scrubability will be taken to the committee for further discussion.

Viscosity

Mr. John Seidensticker from Behr asked the committee to consider increasing to 110 KU the maximum acceptable consistency level in the LEED-Equivalent Eggshell, Semi-Gloss, Satin, and Gloss proposed specifications. All members present agreed with these changes which in their opinion should not affect the field performance of brands eventually certified under those categories.

MP-39.1

Mr. Heald from Sherwin Williams brought up the issue of whether MP-39.1-‘Latex Base, Low Odor, Low Voc, Eggshell, Interior, White And Tint Paint’ will remain a current FSPMA specification once the new set of LEED-Equivalent, Low VOC specs were approved and posted considering that there is an eggshell category among them. All members agreed in keeping the presently-certified brands posted under this category until new products are certified for the newly approved MP-8.0. Once that happens, the two brands certified under MP-39.1 will be grandfathered in until their corresponding expiration dates.

Committee Agreements (unanimous):

- *The alkali resistance test will be removed from all LEED-Equivalent paint spec drafts under the assumption that any primer currently-certified under FSPMA MP-38.4- ‘Exterior/Interior, Alkali Resistant-Stain Block Universal Primer/Sealer, Acrylic-Base’ can be successfully used for highly alkaline substrate applications instead of the LEED-Equivalent primer.*
- *The indirect EPA Method 24 – ‘Determination of Volatile Matter Content, Water Content, Density, Volume Solids, and Weight Solids of Surface Coatings’ (equivalent to ASTM D3960) will be included as an acceptable method for the determination of VOC content (m/v) in addition to direct methods ASTM D6886-03 and ISO 11890-2.*
- *Scrubability will be added to the LEED-Equivalent Eggshell, Semi-Gloss, Satin, and Gloss proposed specifications indicating ASTM D2486 – ‘Standard Test Methods for Scrub Resistance of Wall Paints’ without modifications (using a nylon brush and a shim under the panel) as the method of choice. 750 will be the minimum acceptable number of scrub cycles for those categories.*
- *The maximum acceptable consistency level will be increased to 110 KU in the LEED-Equivalent Eggshell, Semi-Gloss, Satin, and Gloss proposed specifications.*
- *Brands currently posted under MP-39.1- ‘Latex Base, Low Odor, Low Voc, Eggshell, Interior, White And Tint Paint’ will be grandfathered in the new MP-8.0 and posted until their corresponding expiration dates.*
- *The following new specifications were approved with the changes stated above and will be posted by Ms. Diaz from MT&E on both the MT&E (<http://materials.dadeschools.net/>) and the official FSPMA (<http://www.fspma.com/>) websites:*
 - a) MP-7.0- ‘LEED-Equivalent Low VOC Interior Flat’.
 - b) MP-8.0- ‘LEED-Equivalent Low VOC Interior Eggshell’.

- c) MP-10.0- ‘LEED-Equivalent Low VOC Interior Semi-Gloss’.
- d) MP-11.0- ‘LEED-Equivalent Low VOC Interior Satin’.
- e) MP-12.0- ‘LEED-Equivalent Low VOC Interior Gloss’.
- f) MP-13.0- ‘LEED-Equivalent Low VOC Interior Primer’.

Dr. Velazquez and Ms. Leon from MT&E showed the committee several failing exterior exposure panels for the two approved MP-5.7-‘Enamel, Alkyd, Gloss, White and Tints’ brands. They explained that even though it is not uncommon that some brands fail the 1-year exterior exposure test, these two brands have been the first and only two alkyd paints for which MT&E has records under this category and they would like the committee to consider as an exception re-testing these paints just for exterior exposure if the vendors agreed.

Committee Agreement (unanimous):

- *Two MP-5.7-certified brands which failed exterior exposure will be re-tested as long as the corresponding vendor/manufacturer agrees with this decision². MT&E will bring the new results once the test is finalized.*

This concluded business transacted at the referred FSPMA Paint Committee meetings. The next committee meeting will be scheduled by the FSPMA Board of Directors and all members will be timely informed.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,



Doraida Diaz, Supervisor
Department of Materials Testing and Evaluation
Miami-Dade County Public Schools

DD:AV:ML

cc: Mr. Joseph A. Gomez, MDCPS, #9171
Mr. Barry S. Meltz, MDCPS, #9171
Ms. Barbara D. Jones, MDCPS, #9171
Ms. Vivian DeRussy, FSPMA Director of Committees
MT&E Files

² *One of the vendors consulted after the meeting expressed not to be interested in re-testing his brand, instead he will submit another product for certification under the same category.*