

Painting Nelplas®

NELPLAS sheet is easily painted if recommended paints are used in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Due to the high chemical resistance of **NELPLAS** sheet, only certain paints adhere well. It is very important to use recommended paints to paint **NELPLAS**. Research has been performed into which paints are suitable and what methods should be used to successfully paint **NELPLAS**. These methods have proven successful in the field and will provide excellent results.

PAINT SELECTION

Recent environmental concerns and legislation have caused the creation of paints with differing levels of "Volatile Organic Compounds" (VOC). High VOC level paints have a high solvent content. Low VOC level paints exhibit a lower level of solvent content and also do less environmental damage. Some states and counties have legislated what VOC levels may be legally used in their jurisdiction. Please check with local officials to learn if any restrictions on VOC levels exist before selecting a paint.

Normal VOC level paints have proven successful to paint **NELPLAS**. Methods have been discovered to make low VOC paints adhere to **NELPLAS**. Contact your local **NELPLAS** distributor if assistance is needed when using low VOC paints. The following paints are recommended for painting **NELPLAS**:

Recommended Paints

Sherwin-Williams Polane Series
Cardinal Polyurethane Series

Call for Information

800-331-7979
800-696-5244

CONSIDERATIONS WHEN USING RECOMMENDED PAINTS

- Low VOC level paints have demonstrated lower adhesion properties. If a low VOC paint must be used, surface preparation prior to painting may increase adhesion. See "Surface Preparation" below.
- Retarding agents are available from paint manufacturers which have increased paint adhesion in laboratory testing. These retarding agents cause the paint mixture to evaporate slower, giving the paint more time to attack and adhere to the surface. As an example, adhesion of Polane T Plus paint was increased when Reducer 84 was replaced by retardant R7K216 in the paint mixture.

SURFACE PREPARATION

Paint adhesion can be increased by preparing the **NELPLAS** surface prior to painting. If paint adhesion problems are encountered, try the following surface preparation techniques. Always check to make sure using any of the methods listed below does not violate existing environmental statutes.

- **Sanding**—Sand the surface using fine grit sandpaper. This will roughen surface and make it more suitable for paint adhesion. Wipe the surface with dry cloth after sanding to remove debris.
- **Isopropyl Alcohol (IPA) Wiping**—A **NELPLAS** surface can be wiped using IPA or rubbing alcohol prior to painting. This method of treatment helps paint attack the surface and creates a strong bond to the **NELPLAS**.

PAINTS NOT RECOMMENDED

The following types of paints have provided poor adhesion in laboratory testing. **NELPLAS** Wall Protection Systems does not recommend the use of the following paint types:

Epoxy Paints

Water-Based Paints

Latex Paints

Enamels

Even though **NELPLAS** has experienced difficulties with the paints listed above, customers may experience success with these paint types in the field.

Silk-Screening Nelplas®

Nelplas sheet is easily printed on as long as the recommended inks are used.

SCREENING

A good copy can be achieved by using the following recommendations provided to us by Advance Process Supply Co., a silk-screening company based in Chicago that has had considerable experience silk-screening the haircell side of ABS.

The best success resulted with an ink mixture consisting of 2.2% T-972 thinner, 10.9% 850 ABS Halftone Base, and 86.9% ABS 540 red ink (or any color) by weight. The screen mesh used was 230 HI-FLYON with the 747 Emulsion Sensitized with the Raysol Diazo Sensitizer. The prints were made with a flood stroke with the screen about 1/4" above the **Nelplas**. The squeegee used was the Polyplastic type.

Advance Process Supply company is no longer in business. Naztar now supplies their inks. If you need more information, please contact Naztar at (708) 439-8668.

The suggestions and data in this document are based on information we believe to be reliable. They are offered in good faith, but without guarantee, as conditions and methods of use of our products are beyond our control. We recommend that the prospective user determine the suitability of our materials and suggestions before adopting them on a commercial scale.



NELPLAS®
Wall Protection Systems

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