Recommended Protocol for Spot Repairing Existing Finishes

1. Scope

PCA P24

- 1.1. This standard establishes procedures for the inspection and acceptance of spot repairs made to existing finishes. The purpose of this standard is to explain the consequences of spot repairing existing finishes.
- 1.2. The purpose of this standard is to outline reasonable characteristics and expectations of spot repairing of existing finishes. This standard establishes procedures for the inspection and acceptance of spot repairs made to existing finishes.

2. Significance and Use

- 2.1. Existing substrates and finishes will age differently than new substrates and newly applied finishes.
- 2.2. It is important that all parties to the contract be made aware that the appearance of spot finishes will change with the passage of time.
- 2.3. This standard describes various options when spot repairing of finishes is performed.

3. Reference Standards & Documents

- 3.1. Dictionary of Architecture and Construction, Fourth Edition, 2005
- 3.2. FSCT, (Federation of Societies for Coatings Technology), Coatings Encyclopedia Dictionary, edited by Stanley LeSota, 1995.
- 3.3. Merriam-Websters 11th Collegiate Dictionary.
- 3.4. MPI, The Master Painters Glossary Version- Painting and Decorating Terminology Version 4.0, 2004.
- 3.5. PCA Standard P1, Touch-Up Painting and Damage Repair: Financial Responsibility and Definition of a Properly Painted Surface.
- 3.6. If there is a conflict between any of the references and this standard, this standard shall prevail.

4. Definitions

- 4.1. AGE: To become old; show the effects or the characteristics of increasing age [Merriam-Websters]
- 4.2. BREAK (POINT): A change in direction of a plane ; usually in reference to a wall. [Dictionary of Architecture and Construction]
- 4.3. COLOR: One aspect of appearance; a stimulus based on visual response to light, and consisting of three dimensions of Hue, Saturation and Lightness. [FSCT]
- 4.4. GLOSS: The mirror-like reflectance of light from the surface of a coating or substrate. The



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shine or luster of a surface. The gloss of paint is generally measured at various standard degree angles such as 85, 60, 45 and 20 degrees from the surface. [MPI]

- 4.5. OBLIQUE; Neither perpendicular nor parallel; not straightforward [Merriam-Websters]
- 4.6. PERPENDICULAR: Being at right angles to a given line or plane. [Merriam-Websters]
- 4.7. REASONABLE: Being in accordance with reason; not extreme or excessive. [Merriam-Websters]
- 4.8. SPOT FINISHING: Repairing a small area on a dry painted (or otherwise finished) surface by blending a fresh coat of paint with the dry coating. [Dictionary of Architecture and Construction]
- 4.9. TEXTURE: The general physical appearance, or the impression caused by a surface structure. [MPI]
- 4.10. ULTRAVIOLET: Light of short wave length (generally below 360 millimicrons) which is invisible but has a destructive effect on the chemical components of substrates and finishing materials. [MPI]

5. Standard Specification

- 5.1. Small spot finish on a surface that does not have natural break points.
 - 5.1.1. The spot to be finished shall be kept as small as possible to minimize the size of the repair area.
 - 5.1.2. The Painting and Decorating Contractor shall provide a reasonable match of the color of the spot repair material to the existing color of the adjacent surface.
 - 5.1.3. The Painting and Decorating Contractor shall provide a reasonable match of the gloss of the spot repair material to the existing gloss of the adjacent surface.
 - 5.1.4. The Painting and Decorating Contractor shall provide a reasonable match of the texture of the spot repair to the existing texture of the adjacent surface.
 - 5.1.5. The acceptability of the spot finish shall be determined when viewed perpendicular to the spot finish without magnification, at a distance no less than thirty-nine (39) inches under finished lighting conditions.
 - 5.1.6. When viewed at an oblique angle, a spot finish on a surface that does not have natural break points will be visible. As the gloss of the spot repair material is increased, the visibility of the spot finished area will be more pronounced.
- 5.2. Spot finish on a surface that does have natural break points but does not include entire room.
 - 5.2.1. The color of the spot repair material shall be a reasonable match to the existing color of the same surface in the remainder of the room.
 - 5.2.2. The gloss of the spot repair material shall be a reasonable match to the existing gloss of the same surface in the remainder of the room.
 - 5.2.3. The texture of the spot repair shall be a reasonable match to the existing texture of the same surface in the remainder of the room.



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- 5.2.4. The acceptability of the spot finish shall be determined when viewed without magnification, at a distance no less than thirty-nine (39) inches under finished lighting conditions and from a normal viewing position in accordance with PCA Standard P1.
- 5.3. Spot finish of a surface in an entire room.
 - 5.3.1. The color of the spot repair material shall be a reasonable match to the existing color of the same surface in the room.
 - 5.3.2. The gloss of the spot repair material shall be a reasonable match to the existing gloss of the same surface in the room.
 - 5.3.3. The texture of the spot repair shall be a reasonable match to the existing texture of the same surface in the room.
 - 5.3.4. The acceptability of the spot finish shall be determined when viewed without magnification, at a distance no less than thirty-nine (39) inches under finished lighting conditions and from a normal viewing position in accordance with PCA Standard P1.
- 5.4. As both the spot repair materials and the existing finishes age, it is likely that the appearance of the spot repaired areas and the existing finishes will be different due to different materials being utilized and due varying exposure to ultraviolet light, number of paint coats, etc.
- 5.5. The visual difference between spot repaired areas and existing finishes is more pronounced when stain and clear wood finishes on wood are involved. Refer to PCA standard P21 for designation of stain and clear finishes.
- 5.6. When colors, glosses and textures are reasonably matched, there will still likely be visible differences between spot finished areas and existing finishes.
- 5.7. As the type of spot finish process progresses from Small spot finish on a surface that does not have natural break points to spot finish on a surface that does have natural break points but does not include entire room to Spot finish of a surface in an entire room, the resultant visual appearance will be more uniform.

6. Comments

- 6.1. This standard establishes a protocol for spot repairing existing finishes.
- 6.2. This standard is intended to establish a consensus document for the painting industry's practices.

7. Notes

7.1. PCA does not warrant or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness or usefulness of any of the information contained herein.



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