

**METRIC****A-A-1558A****June 2, 1992****SUPERSEDING****A-A-1558****April 24, 1981****COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION****PAINT, STENCIL**

This commercial item description has been approved by the Commissioner,  
General Services Administration for all Federal Agencies.

**Salient characteristics:**

The stencil paint covered by this description is intended for brushing or spraying on bales, crates, boxes, and drums. It shall be formulated to obtain maximum color stability, and minimum chalking tendencies to allow for exterior as well as interior use. After hand stirring, the paint shall be smooth, homogeneous and ready for use. It shall mix readily with mineral spirits at a one to one ratio with no curdling, separation or precipitation. The paint shall brush satisfactorily with no pulling and dry to a smooth, uniform film showing no brush marks.

The paint shall have a minimum nonvolatile content of 60 percent by weight, and shall be suitable for brushing as is or spraying after thinning with mineral spirits.

**Consistency.** A driving weight of 175g to 375g shall be required to obtain 200 r.p.m. (ASTM D 1640).

**Drying time.** The paint shall set to touch in 15 minutes and dry hard in 1 hour (ASTM D 1640).

**Color\*.** The paint shall be a general match to the specified color chip (ASTM D 1729).

**Specular gloss\*.** The 60° specular gloss shall be a maximum of 30 percent (ASTM D 523).

**Hiding power.** Complete wet and dry hiding shall be obtained with a dry film thickness no greater than 50 mm. Test by brushing over a Leneta spray monitor until complete wet hiding is obtained. Allow to dry for 4 hours, evaluate the dry hiding and then determine the dry film thickness.

**Flexibility\*.** The paint shall show no cracking or flaking when bent over a 6.4 mm (1/4-in) diameter mandrel (ASTM D 522).

**Cohesion\*.** The paint shall ribbon or curl without flaking or powdering and show beveled edges at a cut made with a curved blade craftsman's knife held at an angle of 30° from the film.

**Adhesion\*.** No more than 5 percent of the film shall be affected when tape is pulled from the scored film (minimum rating of 4B under ASTM D 3359, method B).

**Chemical Resistance\*.** There shall be no softening, blistering, wrinkling, loss of adhesion or color change when immersed separately in the following chemicals for the corresponding times, wiped clean, allowed to recover for 2 hours and then tested for film integrity by lightly scraping with a metal spatula (ASTM D 1308):

Water (25° +/- 5°C) for 18 hours.

Lighter fluid (25° +/- 5°C) for 10 minutes.

3-in-1 oil (110 to 115°C) for 2 hours.

\*The test panels shall be prepared from type 3 steel in accordance with ASTM D 609, method D. Draw down a film which will dry to a thickness of 50 +/- 5 m and allow to cure for 5 days at standard conditions before testing.

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The issue of the ASTM test methods in effect on the date of the solicitation shall be used to determine compliance with these requirements.

ASTM standards are available from the American Society for Testing and Materials, 1916 Race Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

**Certification.** The contractor shall certify that the product offered meets the salient characteristics of this description, and that the product conforms to the producer's own drawings, specifications, standards and quality assurance practices, and is the same product sold in the commercial marketplace. The Government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance prior to first delivery and thereafter as may be otherwise provided for under the provisions of the contract.

**Packaging, packing, and marking.** The packaging packing and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

**PREPARING ACTIVITY:**

**GSA-FSS**