

PRODUCT DESCRIPTION

A single component, solvent borne, high solids intumescent coating independently tested to assess fire protection performance on structural steelwork to in accordance with a range of standards.

INTENDED USES

To provide fire protection on structural 'I' sections, beams and columns for up to 2 hours.

Due to its fast drying properties, and rapid recoatability, Interchar 973 is suitable for application in both on and off-site application facilities and can be used over a range of approved priming systems.

PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR INTERCHAR 973

Colour	White, Pale Grey
Gloss Level	Matt
Volume Solids	70% ± 2% (measured according to ISO 3233 and ICF Method)
Typical Thickness	300-700 microns (12-28 mils) dry equivalent to 429-1000 microns (17.2-40 mils) wet, achievable in one coat.
Theoretical Coverage	1 m ² /litre at 700 microns d.f.t and stated volume solids 40 sq.ft/US gallon at 28 mils d.f.t and stated volume solids
Practical Coverage	Allow appropriate loss factors
Method of Application	Airless Spray, Brush
Drying Time	

Overcoating interval with self

Temperature	Touch Dry	Hard Dry	<i>Minimum</i>	<i>Maximum</i>
10°C (50°F)	60 minutes	24 hours	24 hours	Extended ¹
15°C (59°F)	45 minutes	20 hours	20 hours	Extended ¹
25°C (77°F)	30 minutes	16 hours	16 hours	Extended ¹

¹ See International Protective Coatings Definitions and Abbreviations

Sealer coat should be applied as soon as possible after completion of the final coat of Interchar 973 (minimum 2-4 hours for Intersheen 54 and 579; 24 hours for Interthane or Interfine sealers). However, d.f.t. must be checked to ensure that specified thickness has been achieved before any sealer coat is applied.

All drying time data has been quoted at the typical thickness of 700 microns (28 mils) d.f.t.

For application at ambient temperatures of 25°C(77°F) and above, a tropical grade is available. See Product Characteristics.

REGULATORY DATA

Flash Point	4°C (39°F)	
Product Weight	1.34 kg/l (11.2 lb/gal)	
VOC	2.83 lb/gal (340 g/lt) 267 g/kg	EPA Method 24 EU Solvent Emissions Directive (Council Directive 1999/13/EC)

See Product Characteristics section for further details

**SURFACE
PREPARATION**

All surfaces to be coated should be clean, dry and free from contamination. Prior to application all surfaces should be assessed and treated in accordance with ISO 8504:2000

Oil or grease should be removed in accordance with SSPC-SP1 solvent cleaning.

Primed Surfaces

Interchar 973 should always be applied over a recommended anti-corrosive coating scheme. The primer surface should be dry and free from all contamination and Interchar 973 must be applied within the overcoating intervals specified (consult the relevant product data sheet).

Areas of breakdown, damage etc., should be prepared to the specified standard (e.g. Sa2½ (ISO 8501-1:2007) or SSPC-SP6, Abrasive Blasting, or SSPC-SP11, Power Tool Cleaning) and patch primed prior to the application of Interchar 973.

Consult the Interchar Acrylic Application Guidelines for more details regarding surface preparation.

Metallic Zinc Primed Surfaces

Interchar 973 can be applied over approved epoxy metallic zinc primers, provided that these have been overcoated with an approved tie coat first. Ensure that the primed surface is clean, dry and free from contamination prior to application of the Interchar 973. Recommended tie coats are Intergard 269 or Intergard 276.

APPLICATION

Mixing	This material is a one component coating and should always be mixed thoroughly with a power agitator before application.	
Mix Ratio	Not applicable	
Airless Spray	Recommended	Tip Range 0.48-0.58 mm (19-23 thou) Total output fluid pressure at spray tip not less than 246 kg/cm ² (3498 p.s.i.)
Air Spray (Pressure Pot)	Not recommended	
Brush	Suitable - small areas only	Typically 200-400 microns (8.0-16.0 mils) can be achieved
Roller	Not recommended	
Thinner	Not recommended	
Cleaner	International GTA007	
Work Stoppages	Do not allow material to remain in hoses, gun or spray equipment. Thoroughly flush all equipment with International GTA007. Partially filled containers may show surface skinning and/or a viscosity increase of the material after storage.	
Clean Up	Clean all equipment immediately after use with International GTA007. It is good working practice to periodically flush out spray equipment during the course of the working day. Frequency of cleaning will depend upon amount sprayed, temperature and elapsed time, including any delays. All surplus materials and empty containers should be disposed of in accordance with appropriate regional regulations/legislation.	

PRODUCT CHARACTERISTICS

The detailed Interchar 973 Application Guidelines should be consulted prior to use.

When applying Interchar 973 by brush, it may be necessary to apply multiple coats to achieve the total specified system dry film thickness.

Multiple coats of Interchar 973 may be required in order to achieve the specified dry film thickness. The maximum dry film thickness which can be achieved in one coat is 700µm.

Over-application of Interchar 973 will extend both the minimum overcoating periods and handling times. Time to handle will vary as a function of overall film thickness applied, humidity and ventilation rate. Drying times will be extended at higher thicknesses

For optimum application and drying characteristics, the air and substrate temperature should be greater than 10°C (50°F) and relative humidity less than 85%. Surface temperature must always be a minimum of 3°C (5°F) above dew point.

When applying Interchar 973 in confined spaces ensure adequate ventilation.

The final surface finish is dependent on application method. Avoid using a mixture of application methods whenever possible. Where a high level of decorative surface finish is required, airless spray should be used.

Interchar 973 is suitable for use in environments classified as C3 (as per the ISO 12944 standard), when specified with an appropriate primer and sealer coat. Consult International Protective Coatings for specific recommendations.

Interchar 973 must be protected from pooling or running water, condensation/high humidity and chemical attack at all times. This is particularly important during application. Refer to the Application Guidelines for more details.

Interchar 973 is not designed for exposure to water immersion/soaking.

The application of a sealer coat over Interchar 973 must form a continuous film free of defects.

Interchar 973 is approved to a range of standards; please contact International Protective Coatings for further details.

Note: VOC values are typical and are provided for guidance purpose only. These may be subject to variation depending on factors such as differences in colour and normal manufacturing tolerances.

Tropical Grade Cure

For improved product workability in warmer climates, a tropical grade version is available. Interchar 973 Tropical Grade has the following characteristics. Volume Solids 69%±2% ; Flash Point 26°C (79°F).

Drying Time

Temperature	Touch Dry	Hard Dry	Overcoating interval with self	
			Minimum	Maximum
25°C (77°F)	2 hours	24 hours	24 hours	Extended ¹
40°C (104°F)	1 hour	20 hours	20 hours	Extended ¹

¹ See International Protective Coatings Definitions and Abbreviations

SYSTEMS COMPATIBILITY

The following primers are approved for use with Interchar 973:

Intercure 200	Intercure 200HS
Intergard 251	Intergard 269
Intergard 276	Interplate 398
Interprime 306	Interseal 670HS
Interzinc 42	

The following topcoats are approved for use with Interchar 973:

Interfine 878	Intersheen 579
Interthane 870	Interthane 990

Where a polysiloxane topcoat is envisaged, application of a tie coat over the Interchar 973 will be necessary; please consult the Application Guidelines for further information.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Further information regarding industry standards, terms and abbreviations used in this data sheet can be found in the following documents available at www.international-pc.com:

- Definitions & Abbreviations
- Surface Preparation
- Paint Application
- Theoretical & Practical Coverage
- Interchar Application Guidelines

Individual copies of these information sections are available upon request.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

This product is intended for use only by professional applicators in industrial situations in accordance with the advice given on this sheet, the Material Safety Data Sheet and the container(s), and should not be used without reference to the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) which International Protective Coatings has provided to its customers.

All work involving the application and use of this product should be performed in compliance with all relevant national, Health, Safety & Environmental standards and regulations.

In the event welding or flame cutting is performed on metal coated with this product, dust and fumes will be emitted which will require the use of appropriate personal protective equipment and adequate local exhaust ventilation.

If in doubt regarding the suitability of use of this product, consult International Protective Coatings for further advice.

PACK SIZE	Unit Size		
		Vol	Pack
	20 litre	20 litre	20 litre
5 US gal	5 US gal	5 US gal	
For availability of other pack sizes, contact International Protective Coatings.			
SHIPPING WEIGHT	Unit Size		
	20 litre		29.2 kg
	5 US gal		56.2 lb
STORAGE	Shelf Life	12 months minimum at 25°C (77°F). Subject to re-inspection thereafter. Store in dry, shaded conditions away from sources of heat and ignition.	

Important Note

The information in this data sheet is not intended to be exhaustive; any person using the product for any purpose other than that specifically recommended in this data sheet without first obtaining written confirmation from us as to the suitability of the product for the intended purpose does so at their own risk. All advice given or statements made about the product (whether in this data sheet or otherwise) is correct to the best of our knowledge but we have no control over the quality or the condition of the substrate or the many factors affecting the use and application of the product. Therefore, unless we specifically agree in writing to do so, we do not accept any liability at all for the performance of the product or for (subject to the maximum extent permitted by law) any loss or damage arising out of the use of the product. We hereby disclaim any warranties or representations, express or implied, by operation of law or otherwise, including, without limitation, any implied warranty of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. All products supplied and technical advice given are subject to our Conditions of Sale. You should request a copy of this document and review it carefully. The information contained in this data sheet is liable to modification from time to time in the light of experience and our policy of continuous development. It is the user's responsibility to check with their local International Paint representative that this data sheet is current prior to using the product.

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