



## **TIPS FOR POLYBASE OVER PAINT: APPLICATION TECHNIQUES AND REQUIREMENTS**

A preferred application is to sand blast or remove the existing paint. However, if you wish to apply a polymer modified base coat, such as Imasco's Polybase, over a painted surface you will need to determine some important information.

### **IS THE PAINT WATER OR OIL BASED?**

Polymer modified base coats use acrylic (water based) resins. They would not be compatible to oil based paint. There are ways of treating oil based paints prior to the application of an acrylic based coating, such as using a bonding agent, but this of course will add to the cost of application.

### **IS THE EXISTING PAINT PROPERLY BONDED TO THE SUBSTRATE?**

If the existing paint is water based, then a bond strength test will be required prior to application of the base coat. It would be necessary to consult the building envelope consultant (engineer) to determine the appropriate method of test.

### **IS THE PAINT FREE FROM CONTAMINATES?**

Contaminants play a major role in bond strength. If a building is close to a major thoroughfare there may be residue from diesel exhaust or industrial smoke stacks in the vicinity. It must first be determined what type of contaminant is on the paint, and then the appropriate cleaner must be used.

### **HAS WEATHERING OR OTHER OUTSIDE POLLUTANTS COMPROMISED THE CHEMICAL STRUCTURE OF THE PAINT?**

Paints, like all other resin based products, has a life expectancy. Air born chemicals, cleaners etc. will reduce that life expectancy and will be a factor as to the advisability of applying a coating over it. Often just a simple rub test will determine the strength of the paint. If a powder is removed when rubbing the surface, then the paint is breaking down and should not be coated.

When it has been determined that all these issues are resolved, a polymer modified base coat may be applied.

**If further information is required please contact your IMASCO representative.**