



# Application Instructions

## **FIREFREE 88®**

### **SURFACE PREPARATION**

All surfaces to be coated must be clean, cured, firm, dry and free of dust, dirt, oil, wax, grease, mildew, loose flaking paint, efflorescence or any other contamination or condition that would adversely affect the performance of the coating. Etch or prime (with a latex primer or fast dry oil base primer/sealer) glossy, glazed or dense surfaces. Always prime oil based finish coatings with an oil based fast dry primer/sealer. Fill holes and surface irregularities with a suitable patching compound to match surface profile. Spot prime all patched areas with appropriate primer. Metal surfaces must be free of rust.

When painting over existing painted surfaces, check for any reactions between the FF88® coating and the existing paint. If any reaction should occur, apply a prime coat to the existing surface paint prior to the application of the FF88® coating.

### **APPLICATION PROCEDURES**

FF88® Application. FF88® coating is a water based product, it is important to take into account the Firefree 88 coating is not a standard decorative paint, but a specialized protective coating. Depending on the finish coating thickness required, the coating can be applied in multiple coating applications. Each coating application can be built up to different levels of wet mil thicknesses using multiple passes of coating with an airless spray gun, brush or roller.

Do not apply if temperature is below 50°F. Do not thin or strain FF88®. Apply at can consistency. Use of airless sprayer is recommended (use of a dedicated spray line is required), but FF88® may be applied by brush or roller. For brush application, a fully loaded brush should be used. A laying on technique will reduce the brush marking. A short nap roller can be used but this may result in a slight textured finish.

### **RECOMMEND APPLICATION EQUIPMENT**

SPRAY-AIRLESS: Capable of a pressure range of 780 to 3300 psi

TIP: .017 to .023 heavy duty 4" to 12" fan width recommended (dependent on application)

Reduction: Do not thin

ROLLER: Use a 1 ¼" nap synthetic cover for heavy application (or others depending on finish).

BRUSH: Use a nylon/polyester brush

### **DRYING**

Dry time is when the surface is thoroughly dry to the touch. Drying times are dependent upon a number of factors: Temperature - Air movement - Humidity - Thickness of product - Method of application. During the drying process, FIREFREE 88® will shrink due to evaporation.



If multiple coats of FF88® are required; FF88® must be thoroughly dry to the touch prior to the application of additional coats. Each coating application must be thoroughly dry to the touch prior to each additional coating application. Air circulation is important to the drying process. The use of fans to provide air circulation in the drying process is acceptable

### **TOPCOAT over FF88®, if needed.**

FF88® has a flat finish but may be top coated with most paints to achieve the desired texture and finish.

Enamel finish coats: Apply either one (1) coat of a latex primer or fast dry oil base primer/sealer or two coats of finish enamel over FF88®.

Wall covering applications: Apply one (1) coat of wall primer over FF 88 coating before applying wall covering.

For information on approved compatible primers and finish paints, contact manufacturer. Apply additional finish coats only after previously applied coats are thoroughly dry. Precautions: Do not apply any materials that have been frozen or have come into contact with contaminants prior to use.

### **THICKNESS**

The dry film thickness to be applied will be recommended by Firefree and will vary depending on the assembly make up, the material/substrate being coated and the fire rating being required. The dry film thickness recommended by Firefree needs to be precisely complied with for adequate performance, thus during application, the wet film thickness should be checked using a wet film thickness gauge. To use the gauge, insert the teeth into the wet basecoat. The last tooth to be coated indicates the thickness achieved. It is important to ensure that the wet film applied is of sufficient thickness to give the required dry film thickness. The final dry film thickness should also be verified per Inspection below.

### **COVERAGE**

The recommended dry film thickness will determine the coverage rate. There is no set coverage rate that applies to all assemblies. The coating is made up of 67% solids and thus, on average, the ratio of wet thickness to dry thickness is 1.5 to 1. Any consideration for quantity and waste or overspray is the sole responsibility of the end user. Waste factor will depend on the method of application (brush, roll or spray), job site conditions and other factors and should be based on the applicators experience.

### **INSPECTION**

All surfaces to which FF88® have been applied should be inspected by a third party special inspection agency, or an ICC certified professional, or a Firefree Coatings QA/QC qualified inspector to verify that FF88® has been properly applied in the required uniform thickness.

If an independent testing agency is retained, it should ensure that preparation of substrate is in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. It should randomly obtain and test samples during application to verify that wet film thickness of the intumescent coating complies with manufacturer's requirements.



## **MAINTENANCE**

Surfaces which have been coated with FF88® should be protected from abuse and abrasion. Damaged surfaces should be repaired and FF88® should be reapplied to the original specified dry film thickness to maintain specific rating.

## **CLEAN UP AND SAFETY**

Wash brushes, rollers, spray guns & pumps and other painting tools in COLD clean water promptly after painting. Clean and remove any dried product with the use of Goof Off. Use all products completely or dispose of properly. Local disposal requirements vary; consult your sanitation department or state-designated agency for more information on disposal options.

Use only with adequate ventilation. Do not breathe spray mist or sanding dust. Avoid contact with eyes and prolonged or repeated contact with skin. Wear eye protection and or gloves during application or sanding. A dust/particulate respirator approved by NIOSH should be worn when sanding or spraying. Close container after each use. First Aid: If you experience difficulty breathing, leave the area to obtain fresh air. In Case of Spill: Absorb with inert material and dispose of as specified under “CLEANUP”.

## **STORAGE & TEMPERATURE**

FF88® cannot be exposed to freezing temperatures. It is important to maintain storage temperatures above the freezing point. FF88® should be stored at recommended temperatures between 50° to 85°. Expected shelf life is one (1) year from the date of purchase. Product must be kept at recommended storage conditions and in original unopened containers.

## **ABOUT THE COMPANY**

FIREFREE **Coatings, Inc** is a privately owned company based in California. FF88® has been tested and listed by Factory Mutual; a division of FM Global, classified by Underwriters Laboratories and accepted by NY Material and Equipment Acceptance (MEA) Division. Firefree Coatings Inc tests its products at accredited third party IAS [www.iasonline.org](http://www.iasonline.org) fire testing laboratories.

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