Users of Color Specifications Wanted by ASTM Committee

Color specialists in ASTM Committee D01 on Paint and Related Coatings, Materials and Applications are searching for users of color specifications to develop a "Standard Guide Protocol for How a Supplier and Customer Set a Color Specification for a Material."

Dr. Ellen C. Carter, consultant, Minolta Corporation, Ramsey, NJ, is chairing a task group that will develop the standard. She says the guide will assist technicians in establishing numerical (instrumental) tolerances for color and provide standards of ideal color for raw material suppliers, coatings producers, pigment or coatings manufacturers setting color specifications.

Using the guide will ensure that color standards are of the exact color within a very small tolerance, directing users to:

- Establish a program to monitor the color quality of the working standards;
- Establish tolerances with a wide range of samples that have been visually evaluated as acceptable or unacceptable when compared to the standard;
- Measure the samples instrumentally and plot the results in lab space;
- Produce an acceptability ellipse that encompasses the acceptable samples.

Paint and coating makers reference hundreds of color specifications, said Carter, therefore, industry representatives at ASTM meetings have called for uniform color tolerances. With procedures developed primarily by Committees D01 and E12 on color and appearance, the guide will be a "how-to" road map for the 12 existing ASTM standards for color specifications, Carter said, directing which to use first, etc. "Otherwise, each person has to rediscover that whole process," she said.

For information, contact Carter (973-237-0643; eccarter@bellatlantic.net).

Company News

□ Elite Finishing, LLC, Milwaukee, WI, a member of Brilliance, LLC, recently celebrated its first anniversary. A tier one finishing shop, the company specializes in high-quality decorative nickel and chromium on aluminum and brass.

The company also offers polishing, copper buffing, deburring, degreasing and packaging.

Troubleshooting acid copper

- 1. Low conductivity can arise from:
 - a. High acid
 - b. Low acid
 - c. Low copper
 - d. High copper
 - e. High temperature
 - f. Low temperature
- 2. Poor throwing power can arise from:
 - a. High acid
 - b. Low acid
 - c. Low brightener
 - d. High brightener
- 3. Bright acid copper solutions require a tightly controlled chloride content in what range (ppm)?

- 4. Coarse or powdery deposits arise from:
 - a. Low acid
 - b. High acid
 - c. Low chloride
 - d. High current
 - e. Low current
 - f. Low temperature

5. Polarized anodes arise from:

- a. High acid
- b. Low acid
- c. Metal contamination
- d. High chloride
- e. Low chloride

Answers are on page 66

❑ Wisconsin Plating Works, Inc., Racine, WI, has been presented with the 2002 Industrial Environmental Achievement Award from the Central States Water Environmental Association (CSWEA), an affiliate of the Water Environment Federation (WEF).

The presentation was made at an awards dinner on May 20 in Rockford, IL.

The award is given each year to a company within one industry from the states of Wisconsin, Illinois and Minnesota. The honor recognizes outstanding contributions in waste minimization, pollution prevention, environmental compliance, and environmental stewardship.

Wisconsin Plating is a third generation family-owned metal finishing jobshop that was founded in 1919. Its nomination was sponsored by the Racine Water and Wastewater Utility.

□ Shipley Company, LLC, Marlborough, MA, has announced that Unichem Industries, Inc., will operate as the exclusive distributor for its North American processing equipment that is used in the manufacturing of printed wiring boards. Shipley, a subsidiary of Rohm and Haas Company, struck the agreement to enhance its support and service for North American dry film photoresist and soldermask lamination equipment customers.

Under terms of the agreement, Unichem will provide technical service and sales support to ensure that Shipley North American PWB process equipment customers receive the service for which both companies are known.

Shipley and its sister organization Rodel, Inc., form the Rohm and Haas Electronic Materials Business Group.

□ Modern Plating Corporation, Freeport, IL, recently completed an upgrade to its ISO registration and is now ISO 9001:2000 certified.

Modern Plating provides a variety of electroplating and dip spin finishes to customers in a wide number of industries.

□ The new Metal Fabrication Division of Southern Aluminum Finishing Company (SAF), Atlanta, GA, is offering custom fabricated architectural panel systems and column covers produced from aluminum composite material (ACM). ACM fabrications give customers more options for exterior panel systems and column covers, as well as interior column covers. ACM panels come in standard colors that include metallic finishes, and a wide variety of factory applied customer colors. ACM comes in 4 mm or 6 mm material thickness in standard or fire-rated core for panels and column covers.

The manufacturer says ACM panel quality-to-price ratio is very favorable when compared to alternative materials, such as marble, granite, brick, and pre-cast materials, for new and retrofit architectural applications.

"This expansion of the SAF product line is another step to become a full-service supplier for glazing contractors, builders, designers and architectural specifiers," said John McClatchey, president of SAF.

□ International Chemical Products, Inc., Huntsville, AL, has introduced a new process in metal treatment into the industrial market. Picklex[®] is said to reduce pretreatment steps and virtually eliminates traditional environmental hazards associated with metal pretreatment, on ferrous and non-ferrous metals.

Ranjit K. Sen, CEO of the company, said the process had undergone many laboratory and field tests in a number of different product applications. Following extensive testing, the Office of Research and Development of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), recognized Picklex[®] with the National Pollution Prevention Roundtable's Most Valuable Pollution Prevention Award in 2001. A study and financial analysis by Battelle Institute found the process to be cost effective and to offer significant savings over conventional metal treatment processes.

Some of the conventional metal treatment processes the product is said to replace are:

- Phosphate treatments for steel
- Chromic acid treatments for aluminum
- Acid treatments for removal of rust, heat treat scale or laser scale
- · Blasting for rust or scale removal
- Chrome or other chemical sealer in the final rinse

As an example of how the product works, Sen said that in the treatment of steel with light surface rust—after the metal is first degreased—Picklex[®] can be applied by dipping, spraying or event brushing. Any light rust on the surface will be converted to become part of the ultra thin protective coating left by the product. The excess product is removed by a 45-sec rinse. After oven drying, the surface is prepared for powder coating or liquid coating. If the part is to be electrocoated, drying is not necessary.

□ Techint Technologies, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA, has changed its name to Core Furnace Systems Corporation. The company says the name change was initiated as a proactive step to position the company to best serve customers in the North American metals market. The company is focused on furnace design and supply, as well as providing customers with quality after market services.

Answers to I.Q. Quiz 385

- 1. b,c,f
- 2. b,c
- 3. 60 to 100 ppm, though there are some additive systems that will tolerate up to 180 ppm.
- 4. a,c,d,f
- 5. b,c,d