



**tefcote**  
SURFACE SYSTEMS

## **Environmental Statement**

In accordance with the Health and Safety at Work Act (1974) we are obliged to advise all users of our products of any hazards involved in handling and applying them, together with any precaution measures to be taken where appropriate. Provided that reasonable standards are maintained and safe working practices followed there are no serious hazards in the handling and use of decorative paints. The following notes have been prepared for your guidance in relation to our general range of products. If additional information is required on particular products, our Technical Department would be pleased to supply details. In event of any query other than products, please contact the Health and Safety Officer.

It is Tefcote Surface Systems aim to provide an entirely environmental friendly system, which is safe in use and does not contain any V.O.C.'s (Volatile Organic Compounds), lead or any other harmful materials.

Tefcote Surface Systems strive to only use products that are waterborne, low odour and non-taint for any of their applications.

### **A. GENERAL RULES**

1. Ensure adequate local ventilation when applying Decorative Paints. Avoid excessive inhalation of solvent vapour.
2. Avoid excessive contact with skin, especially when using thinners. Repeated or prolonged contact tends to cause “de-fattening” which results in cracking and soreness of the skin.
3. Avoid contact with the eyes. In the event of accidental splashes immediate treatment should be given as follows:
  - a) In the case of emulsion paints the eyes should be washed with plenty of clean water.
  - b) In the case of solvent based paints wash the eyes immediately with plenty of clean water, followed by an eye wash. Seek medical attention.
4. Hands must always be washed and cleaned thoroughly after painting, particularly before consuming food and drink. Do not use thinners or brush cleaners to clean paint splashes from the skin. Remove Tefcote coatings by scrubbing gently with soap and water.  
Remove other paints by using a proprietary hand cleaner.
5. Precautions should always be taken to guard against the accidental ingestion of materials. For example food and drink should not be consumed where the coatings and solvents are used and smoking in the area should be prohibited.
6. Suitable protective clothing should be worn. When spraying, paint goggles and face protection should be employed.
7. Clean up spillage's immediately. If any spilled material is recovered and put into another container, remember to label it appropriately.
8. Keep children away from any area where application is taking place.
9. Ensure that all ladders, scaffolding boards, scaffolding etc. are secure.
10. Take care when lifting heavy weights, including large pack sizes of coating.  
Use your legs for leverage, not your back.
11. Keep all working areas as clean and tidy as possible. Remove rags and wipers contaminated with coating to a safe place and immerse them in a bucket of clean water.

## **B. PREPARATION FOR PAINTING**

Burning off should only be carried out in well ventilated areas. This is particularly important if the surface being prepared has been previously decorated with a paint based on a urethane resin since such products could give off toxic vapours when burnt. Avoid the inhalation of fumes and remove from the working area any material which could be accidentally ignited.

When using paint remover pay particular attention to the manufacturer's instructions and ensure that there is adequate ventilation. Exclude any possible source of ignition from the work area.

When rubbing down, avoid the inhalation of dust by wearing a face mask. Better still, use wet flatting wherever possible.

On no account must dry abrasion be used if it is suspected that high lead containing paints are present.

## **C. PAINTING**

Always read the instructions printed on the container before you open it.

As already emphasised, interior painting should only be carried out in well ventilated conditions, and ventilation should be maintained until the paint is dry. An open window normally provides sufficient ventilation, but more is required for some specialist products (see the instructions on the container for guidance) and for application by spray.

Fluids like white spirit and some solvent thinned paints give off flammable vapours, so care must be taken to exclude any possible source of ignition, and to avoid spillage's.

When using paint spray equipment take care to avoid inhalation of spray mist. Face masks to BS2091: 1969 should be employed.

If paint or paint thinners are inadvertently swallowed, immediate medical attention should be obtained. No attempt should be made to induce vomiting.

## **D. STORAGE**

The flash points of the majority of our products are above 32<sup>0</sup>c (90<sup>0</sup>F) and therefore are no problems in the storage of these materials.

In case of certain special products with flash points below 32<sup>0</sup>c (90<sup>0</sup>F) these are clearly labelled as such, and must be stored under the conditions stipulated in the highly Flammable Liquids and Liquefied Petroleum Gases Regulations 1972.

In general, the following storage conditions should be observed:

1. The materials should be stored in special areas set aside for this purpose and kept dry.
2. Emulsion paints and all water containing products must be stored under conditions where the ambient temperature is maintained above 5<sup>0</sup>c (40<sup>0</sup>F).

3. Storage temperature should be uniform and extreme temperature fluctuations should be avoided.

## **E. WASTE MATERIALS**

The disposal of scrap materials, part filled tins etc. must be dealt with under the requirements of the Control of Pollution Act 1974. In general, tins containing only small residual quantities of materials can, after consultation with the Local Authority, be disposed of by tipping. However, any significant quantity of material, or material containing toxic ingredients such as lead etc. must be disposed of by special arrangement with the Local Authority.

## **F. FIRE HAZARDS**

The majority of our products have flash points above 32<sup>0</sup>C (90<sup>0</sup>F) and are therefore labelled "Flammable ". However, solvent based products can of course, ignite and burn if reasonable safety precautions are not observed. In the case of special products with lower flash points these are labelled "Highly Flammable" and the special precautions set out in the Highly Flammable Liquids Regulations must be observed.

Should a fire occur it is possible in certain cases that poisonous fumes could be evolved and suitable personal protection during the fighting should be provided.

During paint application adequate ventilation must be ensured to avoid the accumulation of an explosive concentration of vapours, particularly in the case of highly flammable materials.

## **G. TOXICITY**

1. Most of our Decorative Paints now contain no added lead. Those containing lead are clearly labelled with the precautions to be taken. These should be strictly observed.
2. It is recommended that gloves or barrier cream be used wherever possible, particularly when handling solvents, to prevent absorption through the skin.
3. Most of the resins and pigments (other than those containing lead) used in Decorative Paints are non-toxic, unless they are accidentally ingested.

## **FIRST AID PROCEDURE**

Swallowing:

Do not induce vomiting. If patient vomits turn on to side. Seek medical advice.

Inhalation:

Move into fresh air. Loosen collar. Do not walk about. Take nothing by mouth.

Prolonged skin contact:

Remove contaminated clothing. Wash with soap and water or recognised industrial cleanser. If symptoms persist seek medical advice.

Eyes:

Flush with running water for at least 10 minutes. Seek medical advise

**Note: Tefcote Surface Systems only uses water-borne products.**

REF.	PRODUCT	CLASSIFICATIONS
<b>1.</b>	<b>OIL BASED FINISHES</b>	
<b>2.</b>	<b>WATER BASED FINISHES</b>	
2.1	Tefcote Std. Basecoat	B
2.2	Tefcote Fibre Armour	B
2.3	Tefcote Fibre Filler	B
2.4	Tefcote Topcoat P3000	D
2.5	Tefcote Topcoat 4000 (base)	D
2.6	Tefcote Topcoat 4000 (hardener)	E
<b>3.</b>	<b>MASONRY FINISHES</b>	
3.1	Tefcote Masonry Sealer	B
<b>4.</b>	<b>TIMBER PRODUCTS</b>	
<b>5.</b>	<b>PRIMERS</b>	
5.1	Tefcote Tile Primer (ESP)	E
5.2	Tefcote Plaster Primer	B
<b>6.</b>	<b>SPECIALISED PRODUCTS</b>	
<b>7.</b>	<b>VARNISHES</b>	

HEALTH HAZARDS - OCCUPATIONAL EXPOSURE LIMITS (OEL'S)					
PRODUCT	SUBSTANCE	% WEIGHT LIMITS IN PAINT	OEL SHR TWA (*)	OEL 10 MIN TWA (**)	CPL CLASSIFICATION
Class A Products	White Spirit	10% - 100%	100ppm	125ppm	Flammable
Class B Products	Waterbourne	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Class C Products	White Spirit No. 5 Thinners Zinc Chromate	15% - 25% 35% - 45% 3% - 17%	25ppm	35ppm	Flammable Toxic
Class D Products	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Class E Products	White Spirit Xylene	9% - 25% 8% - 13%	100ppm _____	125ppm 50ppm	Flammable Harmful by inhalation
Class F Products	Di-Methyl Benzalkonium Chloride 2 Phenyl Phenomide	2% 0.5%	_____	_____	Irritant
Class G Products	White Spirit	10% - 100%	100ppm	125ppm	Flammable
Class H Products	White Spirit No. 5 Thinners	40% - 55% 10% - 55%	25ppm	35ppm	Flammable
Class J Products	Isopropanol O-Phosphoric Acid	12% 10%	400ppm	500ppm	Irritant

\* Long term exposure limit - 8 hour time weighted average.

\*\* Short term exposure limit - 10 mins. time weighted average.

## CLASSIFICATION A - FLAMMABLE

### COMPOSITION

Solvent (White Spirit) based products, containing essentially non-toxic ingredients. Do not contain added lead.

### FLASH POINT (ABEL)

Range 32 - 35°C

### STORAGE

Keep containers tightly closed in a cool, dry, well ventilated store. No smoking and no naked lights. Keep away from children.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying by mechanical methods if necessary.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Barrier creams are recommended for all solvent based products and the use of safety spectacles is advised. If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS 4275. Avoid sources of heat or ignition during application and drying.

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

To extinguish, use Carbon Dioxide, dry powder or foam. Do not use water.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Ventilate area if indoors. Prevent entry into drains, sewers, and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material, e.g. earth, sand etc. to contain spillage and remove to safe place to allow solvent to evaporate.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

### TRANSPORT

U.N. Classification 1263  
I.M.D.G. Class 3.3

## CLASSIFICATION B - NON FLAMMABLE

### COMPOSITION

Water-based products, containing essentially non-toxic ingredients.

### FLASH POINT

Not Applicable

### STORAGE

Keep containers tightly closed in a cool, dry, well ventilated store. Protect from frost. Materials should not be stored at temperatures below 5°C. Keep away from children.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Barrier Cream is recommended and the use of eye protection is advised. If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. For guidance refer to BS4275

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

As there is no fire hazard, no special fire fighting arrangements are necessary.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material e.g. earth, sand etc. to contain spillage.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

### TRANSPORT

U.N. Classification not applicable  
I.M.D.G. Class not applicable

## CLASSIFICATION C - FLAMMABLE TOXIC

### COMPOSITION

Solvent (White Spirit/No 5 Thinners) based products containing Chromate pigments.

No.5 Thinners is an aromatic hydrocarbon mixture of ethyl toluene and dimethyl toluenes. This product does not contain any benzene.

### SPECIAL HEALTH HAZARDS

Under the classification. Labelling and Packaging of Dangerous Substances Regulations (1984) these materials are classified as TOXIC in that contact with the dry power (i.e. when rubbing down) might produce skin disorders. Also there is some evidence that over-exposure to Zinc Chromate dust can result in an increased risk of lung cancer. There is no evidence of a similar risk to those who use paints containing this pigment. Extra precautions are necessary therefore when rubbing down films of these materials. Do not use dry abrasion for flattening down.

### FLASH POINT (ABEL)

range 32 - 55 OC

### STORAGE

Keep containers tightly closed in a cool, dry, well ventilated store. No smoking and no naked lights. Keep away from children.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Barrier creams are recommended for all solvent based products and the use of safety spectacles is advised.

If spraying, do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray.

If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS4275. Avoid sources of heat or ignition during application and drying.

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

To extinguish, use Carbon Dioxide, dry powder or foam. **DO NOT USE WATER.** If sealed containers are exposed to fire, spray with water to keep cool.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Ventilate area if indoors. Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material, e.g. earth sand etc. to contain spillage and remove to safe place to allow solvent to evaporate.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

### TRANSPORT

U.N Classification 1263  
I.M.D.G Class 3.3

## CLASSIFICATION D

### COMPOSITION

Water-based products containing a biocidal additive.

FLASH POINT Not applicable.

### STORAGE

Keep containers tightly closed in a cool, dry, well ventilated store. Protect from frost. Materials should not be stored at a temperature below 5°C. Keep away from children.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Barrier Cream is recommended and the use of eye protection is advised. If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. For guidance refer to BS 4275

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

As there is no fire hazard, no special fire fighting arrangements are necessary.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material. e.g. earth, sand etc. to contain spillage.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manor approved by the Local Authority.

### TRANSPORT

U.N. Classification	not applicable
I.M.D.G Class	not applicable

## CLASSIFICATION E - FLAMMABLE HARMFUL

### COMPOSITION

Solvent (White Spirit) based products.

### SPECIFIC HEALTH HAZARDS

Under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Dangerous Substances Regulations (1984) these materials are classified as HARMFUL in that there is danger of cumulative effects is swallowed. Do not use dry abrasion for flattening down.

### FLASH POINT (ABEL)

Range 32 - 55°C

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Barrier creams are recommended for all solvent based products and the use of safety spectacles is advised. If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS4275. Avoid sources of heat or ignition during application and drying.

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

To extinguish, use Carbon Dioxide, dry powder or foam. Do not use water. If sealed containers are exposed to fire, spray with water to keep cool.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Ventilate area if indoors. Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material, e.g. earth, sand etc. to contain spillage and remove to safe place to allow solvent to evaporate.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

### TRANSPORT

U.N Classification	1263
I.M.D.G Class	3.3

## CLASSIFICATION F - IRRITANT

### COMPOSITION

A concentrated solution in water of a powerful fungicide. Approved under the Government's Control of Pesticides Regulations (1986) HSE No. 3776

### SPECIFIC HEALTH HAZARDS

Under the Classification, labelling and Packaging of Dangerous Substances Regulations (1984) this material is classified as IRRITANT

### FLASH POINT (ABEL)

Not applicable

### STORAGE

Keep tightly closed. Keep away from children and animals. Keep away from food, drink and animal foodstuffs. Store in a well ventilated, cool, dry store. Protect from frost.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Suitable protective clothing (overalls) and P.V.C or synthetic rubber gloves should be worn. Remove or cover all foodstuffs before application. If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS4275. Particular attention should be paid to the use of a suitable face mask.

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

As there is no fire hazard, no special fire fighting arrangements are necessary.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material, e.g. earth, sand etc. to contain with growing plants.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

### SPECIAL NOTE

### SWALLOWING

SEEK IMMEDIATE MEDICAL ADVICE, SHOWING LABEL OR CONTAINER.

### TRANSPORT

U.N Classification	not applicable
I.M.D.G Class	not applicable

## CLASSIFICATION G - FLAMMABLE IRRITANT

### COMPOSITION

Solvent (White Spirit) based resin solution, containing a fungicide.  
Approved under Government Control of Prestige Regulations (1986) HSE  
No. 4016

### FLASH POINT (ABEL)

Range 32 - 55<sup>0</sup>C

### STORAGE

Keep container tightly closed in a cool, dry, well ventilated store. No smoking and no naked lights. Keep away from children.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Barrier Creams are recommended for all solvent based products and the use of safety spectacles is advised. Wear suitable protective clothing and gloves (P.V.C) when in use. If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS4275. Avoid sources of heat or ignition during application and drying. Irritating to eyes and skin.

### FIR PRECAUTIONS

To extinguish, use Carbon Dioxide, dry powder or foam. DO NOT USE WATER. If sealed containers are exposed to fire spray with water to keep cool.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Ventilate area if indoors. Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material, e.g. earth, sand, etc. to contain spillage and remove to a safe place to allow solvent to evaporate.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

SPECIAL NOTE READ SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS ON LABEL CAREFULLY BEFORE USE.

### TRANSPORT

U.N Classification 1263  
I.M.D.G Class 3.3

## CLASSIFICATION H - FLAMMABLE

### COMPOSITION

Solvent (No.5 Thinners) based products, containing essentially non-toxic ingredients. No. 5 Thinners is an aromatic hydrocarbon mixture of ethyl toluene and dimethyl toluenes. This product does not contain any Benz.

### FLASH POINT (ABEL)

Range 32-55<sup>0</sup>C

### STORAGE

Keep containers tightly closed in a cool, dry, well ventilated store. No smoking and no naked lights. Keep away from children.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

In the case of paints containing aluminium some pressure may build up in containers and lids should be removed with care. Barrier creams are recommended for all solvent based products and the use of safety spectacles is advised. If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS4275. Avoid sources of heat or ignition during application and drying.

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

To extinguish, use Carbon Dioxide, dry powder or foam. DO NOT USE WATER. If sealed containers are exposed to fire, spray with water to keep cool.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Ventilate area if indoors. Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material e.g. earth, sand etc to contain spillage and remove to safe place to allow solvent to evaporate.

### WASTE DISPOSAL

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

### TRANSPORT

U.N Classification 1263  
I.M.D.G Class 3.3

## CLASSIFICATION J - FLAMMABLE IRRITANT

### COMPOSITION

Acidic solution of a copper salt in a water/solvent mixture.

### SPECIFIC HEALTH HAZARDS

Under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Dangerous Substances Regulations (1984) this material is classified as IRRITANT.

### FLASH POINT (ABEL)

Range 32-55<sup>0</sup>C

### STORAGE

Keep in tightly closed, original containers in a cool, dry, well ventilated store. No smoking and no naked lights. Keep away from children.

### VENTILATION

Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### HANDLING PRECAUTIONS

Do not apply by spray. P.V.C or synthetic rubber gloves should be worn together with suitable eye/face protection (e.g. goggles and/or face mask) If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS4275.

### FIRE PRECAUTIONS

To extinguish, use Carbon Dioxide, dry powder or foam. DO NOT USE WATER. If sealed containers are exposed to fire, spray with water to keep cool.

### LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE

Ventilate area if indoors. Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material e.g. earth, sand etc. to contain spillage and remove to safe place to allow solvent to evaporate.

### TRANSPORT

U.N. Classification 1263  
I.M.D.G Class 3.3

## **CLASSIFICATION K - HIGHLY FLAMMABLE**

### **COMPOSITION**

Solvent (Methylated Spirits) based products. WHITE contains NON-TOXIC PIGMENTS. YELLOW contains LEAD BASED PIGMENTS

### **SPECIFIC HEALTH HAZARDS**

Under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging of Dangerous Substances Regulations (1984) the yellow material is classified as HARMFUL in that there is danger of cumulative affects if swallowed.

### **FLASH POINT (ABEL)**

Below 22°C

### **VENTILATION**

Do not use in confined spaces. Ensure efficient ventilation during application and drying.

### **HANDLING PRECAUTIONS**

Barrier creams are recommended for all solvent-based products and the use of safety spectacles is advised.

If spraying do not breathe fumes, vapour or spray. If natural ventilation is insufficient, exposure should be controlled by mechanical exhaust ventilation. For guidance refer to BS 4275. Avoid sources of heat or ignition during application and drying.

### **FIRE PRECAUTIONS**

To extinguish, use Carbon Dioxide, dry powder or foam. DO NOT USE WATER. If sealed containers are exposed to fire, spray with water to keep cool.

### **LEAKAGE AND SPILLAGE**

Ventilate area if indoors. Prevent entry into drains, sewers and rivers. Spread sufficient absorbent material e.g. earth, sand etc. to contain spillage and remove to safe place to allow the solvent to evaporate.

### **WASTE DISPOSAL**

Treat as fire/chemical hazard. Final disposal should be carried out in a manner approved by the Local Authority.

**SPECIAL NOTE MUST BE USED AND STORED ACCORDING TO THE HIGHLY FLAMMABLE LIQUID REGULATIONS.**

### **TRANSPORT**

U.N. Classification 1263  
I.M.D.G Class 3.2