



Steelguard FM 549



Thin Film Intumescent Coating

Product Data/ Application Instructions

- Thin film solvent based intumescent
- Tested to international fire test standards
- Up to 2 hours fire protection of structural steel
- Off-site or on-site application
- Up to 1.5 mm dry film thickness application in a single coat
- Rapid job completion
- For use in C1 & C2 internal environments – no sealer coat required for dry internal C1 service conditions (ISO 12944)

Typical Uses

Intumescent fire protection for internal structural steel. Steelguard FM 549 is suitable for on-site or off-site application.

Approvals

Steelguard FM 549 has been tested to British Standard 476 Part 21 and UK assessed by Warrington Fire. Appraised by the UK ASFP technical committee and approved for entry in the Yellow Book. Steelguard FM 549 has been assessed in accordance with the Dutch standard NEN 6072:2001 and also been assessed and certified to several national fire test standards.

Mixing

Stir thoroughly before use until the product is uniform throughout. This may cause an apparent thinning effect which is normal for this product. A power mixer should be used.

Physical Data

Appearance when dry	matt	
Colour.....	white	
Components.....	1	
Volume solids*	68 ± 3%	
VOC**		
EC SED 1999/13/EC.....	293g/kg (378 g/l)	
UK PG6/23 (92) Appendix 3...	325 g/l	
Curing mechanism	solvent release	
Loading requirements.....	In order to establish the dry film thickness required to give the specified fire resistance reference should be made to the products A/V m ⁻¹ (Hp/A) or limiting temperature tables. Contact your Ameron representative for full details.	
Dry film thickness (µm)	250	400 500 700 1000 1500
Wet film thickness (µm)	370	590 740 1030 1470 2205
Theoretical coverage (m ² /l)	2.72	1.70 1.36 0.97 0.68 0.45
(wet film thicknesses quoted are theoretical for one airless spray coat)		
Specific gravity	1.3 kg/l.	
Flashpoint		
(closed cup)	°C	°F
Steelguard FM 549	25	77
Amercoat 65	24	75

*Volume Solids is measured in accordance with ASTM D2697 modified. Slight variations of up to ±3% may occur due to testing variances.

** VOC figures are quoted according to the EC directive 1999/13/EC which are theoretically calculated figures and the UK PG6/23 (92) Appendix 3 which are practically determined figures.

Steelguard FM 549



Surface Preparation

Applied over a blasted and suitably primed steel substrate. The surface must be dry and free of dust, salts, grease and other contaminants immediately before coating. The primer used should be applied in accordance with the specific technical data sheet instructions, and must be approved by Ameron to ensure compatibility with the Steelguard FM 549. The total dry film thickness of primer coats should generally not exceed 150 µm. For epoxy primers the maximum allowable dry film thickness may be extended, consult your Ameron representative prior to intumescent application.

Application Methods

Spray application will provide the smoothest finish. Brush application will result in a textured finish.
AIRLESS SPRAY - Use a pump capable of producing a minimum pressure at the tip of 2800 psi (200 kg/cm²). A 30 mesh/ 500 µm internal filter is recommended. Tip size 19-25 thou' (0.48-0.63mm). Dry film thickness of initial coat should not exceed 1.5 mm. Subsequent coats may be applied after 8 hours at 20°C/68°F to a maximum dry film thickness of 1.0 mm per coat.
BRUSH - Apply evenly using a clean, well-loaded brush at up to 300 µm dry film thickness per coat. As a guide allow at least 2 hours drying at 20°C/68°F between coats.

Overcoating

The standard recommended topcoat for Steelguard FM 549 is Steelguard 2458 which allows for fast overcoating and job completion. Other approved topcoats but with longer overcoating periods include Amercoat 450S, Amercoat 4310, Amercoat 2136 and PSX 700#. No sealer is required for internal C1 service conditions unless for cosmetic reasons. For internal C2 service conditions Steelguard FM 549 must be adequately sealed with Steelguard 2458 at 60 µm dry film thickness or other approved topcoat. Please contact your Ameron representative for specific recommendations. It is important that the specified intumescent thickness has been achieved before any topcoating.

(#Amercoat 71TC required as a tie coat)
Providing the steel is suitably primed and the dry film thickness of the intumescent coating exceeds 400 µm, Steelguard FM 549 can be left externally without a topcoat for up to 1 month and up to a further 2 months in sheltered external conditions (i.e. steelwork in a C2 environment). During this period, however, Steelguard FM 549 must be protected from pooling and running water, hot humid environments or immersed conditions. Steelguard FM 549 must have sufficient drying time before exposure in external conditions. As a guide, at 15°C/59°F, for a dry film thickness of 700 µm, a minimum drying period of 40 hours is recommended from time of application of the final coat before exposure. Refer to product drying tables for drying and overcoating schedules.

Drying Characteristics

Drying times will vary considerably depending on ambient conditions, method of application, A/V m³ (Hp/A) of section being coated and applied film thickness. As a guide, at 15°C/59°F a 400 µm dry film thickness coating will be touch dry in approximately 1 hour and hard dry after approximately 40 hours. For further details on the drying times of Steelguard FM 549 refer to the drying tables or contact your Ameron representative.

Application Data

Substrate	primed abrasive blasted steel
Application methods	airless spray, brush
Pot life	not applicable
Environmental conditions	
Relative humidity	up to 85%
Surface temperature	5 - 50°C 41 - 122 °F
Air temperature	5 - 50°C 41 - 122 °F
Surface temperature must be at least 3°C/5°F above the dew point to prevent moisture condensation on the surface.	
Potlife	not applicable
Thinner	not normally necessary
Cleaner	Amercoat 65

Steelguard FM 549



Application Procedure:

1. Flush equipment with recommended cleaner before use.
2. Stir to an even consistency using a power mixer.
3. Thinning is normally not required.
4. For airless spray, apply a wet even coat in parallel passes. Overlap each pass 50% to avoid bare areas, pinholes or holidays.
5. Give special attention to welds, rough spots, sharp edges and corners, rivets, bolts, etc.
6. Application at 590 µm wet film thickness will normally provide 400 µm dry film.
7. Check thickness of dry coating with a non-destructive dry film thickness gauge, such as Mikrotest or Elcometer. If less than specified thickness, apply additional material as needed.
8. Small damaged or bare areas and random pinholes or holidays can be touched up by brush. Repair larger areas by either by spray or brush using Steelguard FM 549 or by trowel, knife, spatula using Steelguard 2450 repair filler.
9. In confined areas ventilate with clean air during application and drying until all solvents are removed. Temperature and humidity of ventilating air must be such that moisture condensation will not form on surface.
10. Clean all equipment with recommended cleaner immediately after use or at least at the end of each working day or shift.

Before using the product, read the label on the can and consult the material safety data sheet.

Shipping Data

Pack size	20 litres
Shipping weight	approx. 28 kg
Shelf life	1 year from shipment date when stored indoors in unopened, original containers at 5 to 40°C (41 to 104°F).

Safety

Since improper use and handling can be hazardous to health and cause of fire or explosion, safety precautions included with application instructions must be observed during all storage, handling, use and drying periods.

Warranty

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