

# Resene TradeLines

Issue 5 - 2006



“ We’re going to get educational this issue and delve into relative humidity and smoke damaged areas with a quick reminder lesson on what you need to do to tackle these two issues. And just so we don’t disappoint, we have thrown in a new product to keep things ticking over nicely. ”

## Wet wet wet

While we generally think of humidity as a summertime issue, **saturation of the air with water** is actually very common over the winter months when someone is painting indoors. Paint may fail over new paperfaced plasterboard if the relative humidity is too high for the paint to dry.

**Relative humidity** is a measure of how much water vapour air is holding expressed as a percentage of the maximum amount of water it can hold at whatever the temperature is. At 100% relative humidity water cannot evaporate out of any coatings whatsoever.

Air has very poor water carrying power. At 15°C a cubic metre of air can only hold 12 grams of water.

Work on interior stopping may be done in all weather and is often undertaken when it is raining. Wet conditions outside will mean air is close to **100%** relative humidity and therefore cannot hold any more water. Damp conditions will ensure the plaster cures well, but skim coat type products will be seriously retarded in their dry because the **air is too wet**. Water may go back into the stopping and wallboard rather than out into the wet air.

In these conditions air will soon reach saturation point and if temperatures drop there may be condensation as well. Very little loss of water from the stopping into the air will occur.

In summer conditions an estimated **40 changes of air** in a room are needed to remove water from wallboards!! In wet or winter conditions, ventilation plus heating will be needed to ensure that the coating is adequately ventilated to cure. The issue is generally worse with lower odour waterborne paints as the decorator is more likely to keep the windows shut throughout the painting process and afterwards, reducing the amount of ventilation in the room.

**Worst of all** is shutting up the building as soon as the painting is complete for an extended period of time as the water laden air won’t be ventilated and the poor old paint on the wall won’t be able to cure properly.

So next time you’re painting indoors, spare a thought for the poor old paint coating and ensure there is adequate ventilation.

## Web wise

A Hitwise award winning website (ranked #1 in the Hitwise New Zealand ‘Business and Finance - Building and Construction each quarter for the last 4 years!), the **Resene website** has undergone a makeover to make navigation easier. With tens of thousands of hyperlinks and hundreds and hundreds of pages to navigate, a new master navigation bar has been added to pages to make finding your way around the site easier no matter where you are.

As part of the upgrade, a **Data Sheet quickfind page** has been added listing Resene data sheets in alphabetical order ([www.resene.co.nz/archspec/datashts/search\\_index.htm](http://www.resene.co.nz/archspec/datashts/search_index.htm)).

**Specification manual** pages are now displayed in pdf format incorporating hyperlinks to data sheets, so simply open the pdf for your substrate and click on the links to view and print appropriate surface preparation and product data sheets. The pdfs print to A4 giving you a tidier copy for inclusion in specifications as required. You can even find back-issues of **TradeLines**, the **Resene News** and even **Habitat** magazine stories if your customers refer you to their favourite scheme from one of the older issues.

There’s over 400 project stories showing various Resene products used on everything from mini golf courses to high rises, plus **Material Safety Data Sheets** and safety information to keep you safe and sound.

As a last resort, if you can’t find what you are looking for drop us an email to [advice@resene.co.nz](mailto:advice@resene.co.nz) (NZ) or [advice.resene.com.au](mailto:advice.resene.com.au) (AUST) and we’ll help you to find the information you need.



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## Smoke stop

Another tricky one to deal with is the damage that is left behind after a fire. In the case of smoke damage it is essential that as much of the damage (such as charring) is physically removed first as paint alone will not stop stains coming through. Use a solvent type cleaner, such as **Resene Emulsifiable Solvent Cleaner** (see Data Sheet D804), to remove smoke stains because they contain both water and solvent soluble components. Then thoroughly scrub clean with freshwater.

When painting over smoke damaged areas always prime with the "other type of paint" to the new finishing coat. For example, to finish in **Resene Enamacryl** waterborne gloss enamel you would seal using **Resene Sureseal** but to finish with **Resene Super Gloss** you should seal with **Resene Quick Dry** acrylic primer undercoat.

When there has been a fire any charred or smoke stained surfaces should be regarded as containing a mass of water soluble stains and a mass of solvent soluble stains. Imagine the surface as containing a mixture of instant coffee powder and soft bitumen. No amount of paint is going to



OR



do the job by itself. The coffee powder and the soft bitumen must be removed before even considering painting.

In short, to prep a smoke and fire damaged area ready for painting...

- Totally remove all charred material.
- Remove any remaining solvent soluble material (the bitumen type substances) by scrubbing with Resene Emulsifiable Solvent Cleaner. The solvent in the cleaner dissolves the solvent soluble stains.
- Remove any remaining water soluble (the coffee powder type) stains by scrubbing with freshwater. The water also acts to emulsify the oil soluble stains and both are removed. Rinse the surface until all the detergent from the cleaner is removed.
- Seal off any tiny traces of solvent soluble stains with a sealer coat of Resene Quick Dry acrylic primer undercoat.
- Seal off any tiny traces of water soluble stains with a sealer coat of Resene Sureseal.

## Dust buster

No-one likes dusting. It's even worse if you have lots of square metres of warehouse space or the like to keep dust-free to protect merchandise, raw materials and machinery. We've found a way of making this job easier with new Resene Cemseal - simply apply Resene Cemseal to bare concrete and it will act to seal the concrete and provide a dust-coat, making it quick and easy to regularly clean the surface without trying to get out impossibly ingrained dust.

For more info see Data Sheet D504.



More news next month!

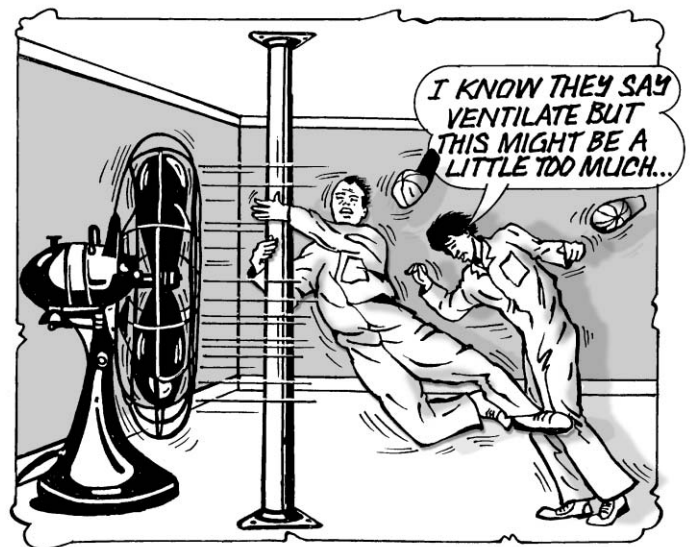
*Eneser* ♥  
*Buckett*

Eneser Buckett, Editor.

## Bumper crop

If you're stuck for inspiration for your next number plate surround, you might like to try one of these...

- I don't suffer from insanity - I enjoy every minute of it.
- A bartender is just a pharmacist with a limited inventory.
- There's too much blood in my alcohol system.
- I'm just driving this way to annoy you.
- Keep honking, I'm reloading.
- Your gene pool could use a little more chlorine.
- Change is inevitable, except from a vending machine.
- I took an IQ test and thank goodness the results were negative.
- Be nice to your kids: they get to choose your nursing home.



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