Resene Tradelines

Issue 2 - 2006

A brand new year is kicking off again with a whole host of new colours, products and projects for us all to look forward to, puzzle over, pick our favourites and generally keep us busy until 2007 rolls around. We have had a few queries from bewildered homeowners worried about lead-based paint who have had indepth discussions with painters who are very laid back about lead-based paints. Lead-based paints are a major concern because if they aren't removed safely they can cause some major health problems, so just to be sure everyone is up with the play on this hazard we delve into lead-based paint on the back of this issue.

Colouring up

Resene MPS Stainers are in for a new pack size and formulation. Over time stock will move from the existing 500ml packs to a 250ml pack with flip top lid.

With the formulation changes, the new MPS Stainers will be in the same colour groups as the existing products but in differing strengths with many being much stronger, so when you are using the new 250ml packaged stock please bear this in mind when mixing your colour.

The new stock will trickle through when 500ml stocks run out. New containers will be marked with new formula labels as a handy reminder.



Revenge is sweet

No-one likes getting caught by a speed camera but some innovative Aussies have found a great way to get their own back. Don't blame us for the story - it found its way to us via email from a British newspaper report...

Four youths from Canberra pulled off a trick of breathtaking bravado in order to gain revenge on a mobile speed camera van operating in the area. Three of the group approached the van and distracted the operator's attention by asking a series of questions about how the equipment worked and how many cars the operator could catch in a day. Meanwhile, the fourth musketeer sneaked to the front of the van and unscrewed its number plate. After bidding the van operator goodbye, the friends returned home, fixed the number plate to their car and drove through the camera's radar at high speed - 17 times. As a result, the automated billing system issued 17 speeding tickets to itself.

Perfect whites

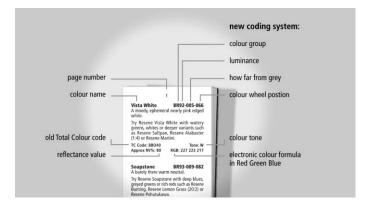
The Range Whites & Neutrals fandeck has grown again to incorporate new colours and increased variations of some of the existing colours in line with requests from specifiers. Copies of the new fandecks are available for \$19.95 from Resene ColorShops. The new fandeck incorporates most of the existing fandeck colours plus adds approximately 100 new colours to the mix giving customers an extensive range of 300 whites and neutrals to choose from.



The observant will notice that the new **The Range Whites & Neutrals** features a new coding system that looks something like **BR99-010-090**. This coding system will slowly replace the existing codes we use.

The new codes translate into the following colour information:

- The first letter tells you what colour group it is from e.g. G = Green,
 B = Blue, R = Red, BR = Brown, Y = Yellow, N = Neutral, V = Violet,
 O = Orange, M = Metallics;
- The first digits tell the colour's luminance, with 0 being basically black and 100 being basically white;
- The **second set of numbers** tells you how far from grey the colour is the higher the number the less grey (cleaner) the colour;
- The last set of digits tells you where the colour sits on a wheel of colour (0-360). By comparing two new colour codes you can establish whether a colour is greyer or cleaner, brighter or darker and where they sit on a colour wheel versus one another.





A lump of lead

Lead-based paint removal is hazardous:

- The removal of lead-based paint can result in harm to both the people doing the job and the people who live or work nearby.
- Untreated lead poisoning can lead to brain damage or even death.

Lead is a health hazard. Small chips of lead containing paint or lead paint dust can create health risks. It can also contaminate the environment. Fine lead-based paint particles deposited in soil or household dust can become a constant risk to the health of young children, other household occupants and pets.

Lead enters the body as lead containing dusts (produced by sanding or by disturbing flaking or chalking lead-based paint) or lead fumes (produced by heat and burning).

The dangers of lead-based paint:

You can get lead poisoning if you do not take care when you remove lead-based paint from the inside or outside of a building. Children, especially pre-schoolers, are particularly at risk from lead poisoning because they may swallow bits of paint that contain lead or soil that has been contaminated. Children chewing on painted cots or toys are also at risk if lead-based paint has been used.

Until 1965, many paints had high lead levels. This was particularly true of pre-1945 paints. Even if a building has been recently painted, it may have been painted with lead-based paints or have layers of old paint covered by modern paint. Today only special purpose paints contain lead and these are clearly labeled.

During pregnancy, lead may cross the placental barrier from the mother to baby. Some evidence suggests that elevated blood lead levels in the mother might affect the development of the baby's nervous system and might increase the risk of a premature birth

It's not possible to tell lead-based paints by their appearance, but there is a simple test that can detect whether the paint is a health risk. If a building is over 25 years old it is best to presume that it has been painted with lead-based paint. Contact a Health Protection Officer in your local area if unsure.

There is one fly in the ointment... the new **Resene yellow 2 tone** contains *bismuth vanadate*, which reacts with the lead test solution turning black giving the appearance of a positive lead test result... never fear, yellow 2 tone is completely lead-free!

Health and safety:

The 'Health and Safety in Employment Act' requires employers to provide a safe working environment for employees. Employees and self-employed people are also required to protect themselves and others from harm. This includes contractors.

Lead poisoning:

- Many adults and children with lead poisoning will have either very vague or nonspecific symptoms such as stomach pains, difficulty sleeping, constipation and loss of appetite or no symptoms at all.
- Children who may have no obvious symptoms can still suffer some brain damage over a period of time.
- If a child has more severe symptoms such as weakness or difficulty walking, seek urgent medical attention.
- Untreated lead poisoning in both adults and children can be fatal.
- Pets often show symptoms of lead poisoning before people. If a pet is unwell and lead poisoning is diagnosed, a doctor should check all members of the household.

What to do:

If you think someone may have been exposed to paint dust, flakes of old paint, soil with paint dust in it, or may have chewed on some old paint, you should ask a doctor to check their blood lead level.

Safety points for removing lead-based paint:

Whatever method you use to remove lead-based paint, always take the following precautions:

- Keep children and pets away from the work area and make sure they don't eat or play
 with paint debris.
- If removing paint from the inside of your house, remove the curtains and furniture from the room and cover the carpets before beginning the job. After sanding, wet wipe surfaces to remove dust then use a commercial vacuum cleaner fitted with a suitable dust filter.
- If removing the paint from the outside of a building, make sure all windows and doors
 are closed to prevent contamination inside. Collect all paint debris on a ground sheet
 large enough to contain all the debris. If working on a scaffold, tie a sheet underneath
 to catch falling paint. If removing paint by waterblasting, try to collect all flakes of
 paint from the surrounding area.
- Clean the area around the groundsheet with a vacuum cleaner to collect any other
 paint debris. Dispose of the contents immediately. After sanding, wet wipe surfaces
 to remove dust and then use a commercial vacuum cleaner fitted with a dust filter.
- Do not burn paint debris or timber that is coated with paint containing lead.
- Wrap up all paint debris securely in heavy-duty plastic bags.

- · Provide short-term secure storage for debris.
- Contact the local Council before work begins. Paint wastes must be disposed of in accordance with local Council requirements.

Protecting yourself:

- Wash your face and hands carefully before eating food or smoking and change out
 of contaminated overalls (especially if dry sanding) when not actually working. Wash
 contaminated clothes separately.
- Wash your face and hands and change out of contaminated clothing before contact with children
- Wear a hat or cover your head (especially when dry sanding) to prevent dust accumulating in your hair.
- The quality and efficiency of safety equipment needed to make dry sanding of leadbased paints safe generally means that dry sanding is not possible, or recommended for use by the DIY'er.
- Wear a good quality, properly fitted toxic dust respirator when dry sanding, making dust, or burning off lead-based paint. If using a disposable type, only those with double headstraps are suitable. Respirators should meet the requirements of the New Zealand/Australian Standard NZS/AS 1716-1991 (Respiratory Protective Devices).
- Do not smoke while removing paint as hand to mouth contact may increase the risk
 of eating or inhaling lead paint dust.

Effect of lead on the garden:

Vegetables and fruit grown in soil contaminated by lead-based paint are safe to eat as long as they are carefully washed to remove dust and soil from the leaves on the outside of the plant.

If safety precautions haven't been taken, soil may be contaminated and the top layer may need to be removed. For further information on lead poisoning contact your local Health Protection Officer.

New technology aids lead paint removal:

There is a new technology out that can help remove lead-based paint easier than many existing removal options. i-Strip's Speedheater System™ is an innovative method for removing paint and varnish from wood, developed over a number of years in Sweden and now available in New Zealand and Australia.

The **Speedheater 1100** is silent, uses no environmentally hazardous chemicals and can remove approximately 2 square metres of paint back to bare wood in an hour, making it much faster than a heat gun. The low operating temperature means that no lead gases are released during the removal of lead-based paints.

The system works by using infrared heat, breaking the bond between the paint and the wood and drawing moisture out during the stripping process. The wood's natural resins are also drawn to the surface during the infrared process, increasing its ability to withstand moisture. Removing moisture from the wood creates a porous substrate and a tooth for the primer to grip on to. This extends the life of the new paint layer. Infrared heat opens the grain of the wood without damaging it.

The equipment can be purchased or hired by visiting www.i-strip.co.nz or in NZ by calling 0800 90 55 23.

