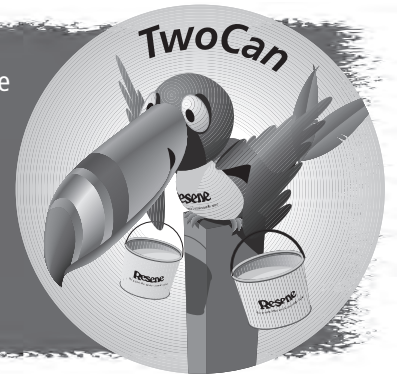


“ Perception is a tricky thing – what’s smooth to one is rough to someone else, one person will think a blue is too blue and another that it’s not blue enough. We all view the world through our own filters. No wonder they say beauty is in the eye of the beholder. Of course, when it comes to colour, lighting, how much there is of a colour, what else there is in the space and the sheen level affects the way we view the colour. To help your clients appreciate how the sheen level may affect their colour choices, this issue we have a handy new colour tool for you... ”

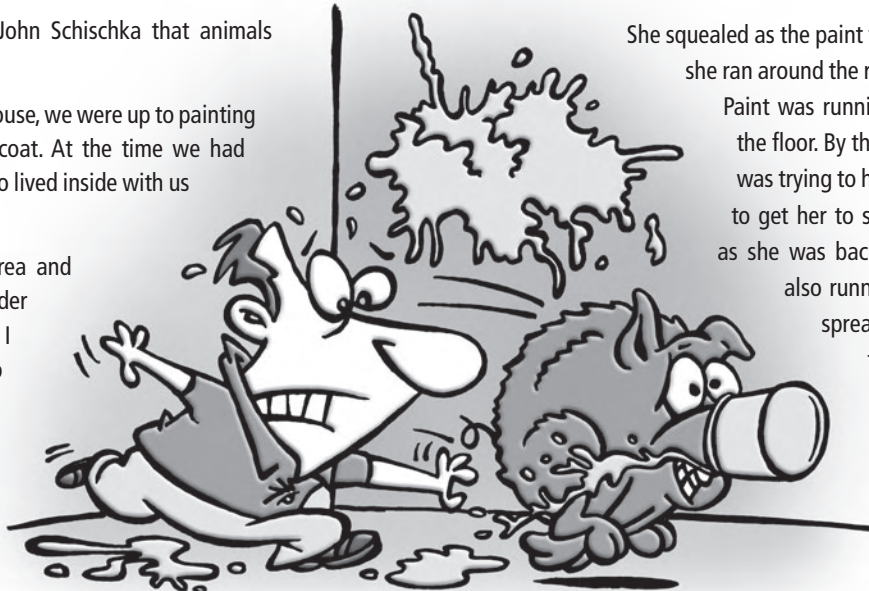


## Never work with animals

A handy reminder from John Schischka that animals and paint don’t mix.

“When building our own house, we were up to painting our first wall with undercoat. At the time we had a young Kunekune pig who lived inside with us as a pet.

I had set up my work area and had popped up the ladder to start cutting in when I heard our pig come into the room. I looked down to say hello to her when I heard her grunting, only to realise I had forgotten to put the lid on my paint!



But before I could get down the ladder, the pig stuffed her snout into the paint can and of course lifted her head up at the same time!

She squealed as the paint tin refused to come off and she ran around the room backwards in a panic! Paint was running out of the can all over the floor. By this time I had got down and was trying to help her but the more I tried to get her to stop the more she ran and as she was backtracking around she was also running through the paint and spreading that around with footprints too! Needless to say the place was a bit of a mess and no painting was done that day – only the cleaning of one distraught pig and our floor!”

## Gloss, low sheen or something in between

The way a paint colour looks can be affected by how much there is of the colour, what other colours are in the space, the lighting and of course the gloss or sheen level.

Colours tinted into high gloss paints appear cleaner and more intense than colours tinted into flat paints. Conversely colours appear muddied and darker in a flat finish than in a glossier finish. When choosing colours it can be hard to envisage the effect of gloss on the colour choice.

To make it easier for you to demonstrate this to your clients, Resene has created The Specifier – Gloss levels fandeck. This handy fandeck



shows a selection of popular Resene colours in gloss, semi-gloss, satin, low sheen and flat so you can see at a glance the effect gloss level has on a colour. It also includes handy gloss clear and gloss flat indicators that you can place over the colours clients are planning to use to see how they may be affected by a change in gloss level.

The Resene The Specifier – Gloss levels fandeck is available free to Resene professional decorators and specifiers from Resene representatives or Resene ColorShops or request your free copy by emailing us at [update@resene.co.nz](mailto:update@resene.co.nz) with your business name and postal address and we’ll post one to you.

## More words from the wise

### Part 2

Here's the second half of the article from last issue. It's always a good plan to take time to step back and make sure you have everything in place and working well. This applies to safety too – getting everything set up right can save a lot of time later. The Environmental Protection Agency put together this handy article that provides some food for thought as to things you can do to improve the way your business works from a safety, environmental and product efficiency point of view. We've included a few notes from Resene too.

If you missed the first half of this article, check out the TradeLines issue 2, 2013 on the Resene website.

### Safe painting practices and alternatives to hazardous substances.

The composition of surface coatings products have increasingly come under scrutiny. Toxic substances such as mercury, arsenic, and lead are no longer allowed in paints. Some paints release ozone depleting volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and other hazardous chemicals to the atmosphere throughout the product lifecycle. Short-term exposure to solventbased paints can lead to headaches, asthma, nausea and respiratory complaints. Long-term exposure to these chemicals can lead to serious adverse health effects and even death.

The proliferation of waterbased paints as an alternative to solventbased products has significantly reduced the use and release of VOCs. In addition to being non-flammable, waterbased paints are less odorous and often have a lower toxicity profile. Modern, high-quality waterbased products offer excellent performance and the introduction of waterborne enamels has enabled industry and consumers to apply these products with confidence to trim, joinery, and wet areas.

The appropriate disposal of hazardous substances is of concern to the EPA and waterborne products have reduced environmental impact related to disposal. Also, there are now feasible options for solventborne paint recovery, and the recycling of metal paint cans is available. Retailers can advise customers on how to dispose of unwanted materials in a way that minimises the impact on our environment.

There are practical steps you can take to minimise the impact of surface coatings on your health and the environment.

When interior decorating consider the following:

- Try to schedule painting for dry periods when windows are easily left open for ventilation.
- Keep windows open for 2-3 days after painting to avoid unwanted exposure to paint vapours. Avoid these rooms for the duration of drying.
- Take frequent fresh air breaks while painting and leave the room if you experience eye watering, headaches, dizziness or breathing problems.
- Waterbased paints will emit significantly fewer chemical vapours that cause harm to your health and the environment.

- Always read the label and follow the safety instructions. Labels should provide information on how to reduce hazards, such as wearing protective gear and the first aid measures to combat any adverse reactions. (As well as reading the packs, you can view copies of Resene labels on the Resene website).
- Buy only as much paint as you need to avoid wastage and disposal.
- Only open containers when adding or dispensing the materials. Make sure you use air-tight containers when storing paints, solvents and other coatings. These measures will reduce the emission of harmful vapours.
- When using solventborne products consider the hazardous nature of these products. Only a small amount of exposure can be damaging to your health.
- Never expose solvents to a flame as these products are highly flammable.

- Remember to use protective equipment including goggles and a face mask.
- Use good quality paints that will maintain their surface finish and appearance for a longer time. If you need to repaint less often, you will save money and do yourself and the environment a favour.

- Using waterborne paints will also minimise the need for cleaning solvents. Make sure that paint wastes are not released directly into the environment. Ask your supplier for information on the safe disposal of paint and solvent wastes or contact your local council. (We recommend using the Resene PaintWise service if it is available in your area – simply bring back unwanted paint and packaging to the Resene PaintWise service so it can be recycled or reused – see [www.resene.co.nz/paintwise.htm](http://www.resene.co.nz/paintwise.htm) for details. Otherwise contact your council for recommended disposal options).

In order to reduce emissions of hazardous air pollutants and VOCs, companies could:

- Use more efficient paint application equipment. For spray painters this may include the use of high-volume, low-pressure (HVLP) spray guns.
- Train painters on application techniques. A large percentage of paint is never applied to the intended surface. Greater efficiency will reduce harmful emissions, hazardous wastes, and the cost of labour and products. In the case of spray-painting, overspray is often a problem and could be reduced by correct gun technique and the use of better equipment.
- The amount of cleaning solvent used should be monitored. Cleaning solvents can sometimes be reused.

Article supplied courtesy of the Environmental Protection Authority.



That's all for now –  
catch ya next month!

TwoCan, Editor.

