

Ameron ABC3 Self-polishing TBT-free Antifouling

Table 1

Comparison between Ameron's ABC3 5-year antifouling for M&R and new building of all vessel types and competitor's TBT-free 5-year system for M&R of deep sea vessels only

Property	Ameron's ABC3 self-polishing AF	Competitor's tin-free self-polishing AF	Comments
Volume solids	52%	40%	
VOC (EPA method 24)	399 g/l (3.33 lb/US gal)	508 g/l (4.24 lb/US gal)	
Dry film thickness for 5-years	350 microns	375 microns	
Theoretical spreading rate, m ² /l	1.48	1.06	
Price per liter	\$9.50	\$12.00	
Cost per m ²	\$6.42	\$11.32	
Service life	Extensive track record of up to 5-years service	Very limited track record	
Shelf life	2 years at 40°C (104°F)	3-months at >25°C (>77°F) 6-months at ≤25°C (≤77°F)	Some of competitor's material is certain to be lost when dry docking in warm climates
Dry to recoat time	min. 5 hr at 20°C (68°F)	min. 12 hr at 25°C (77°F)	
Maximum recoat time	None	28 days with itself	
Minimum time to launch	6 hr at 20°C (68°F)	36 hr at 25°C (77°F)	
Maximum time before launch	none	28 days	
Minimum application temperature	-18°C (-0.4°F)	-5°C (23°F)	Restrictions on use of competitor's product at this -5°C (23°F)
Material temperature during appln.	5°C - 35°C (41°F - 95°F)	25°C - 30°C (77°F - 86°F)(optimum)	
Airless spray application	Ok	Ok	
Conventional spray application	Ok	Not suitable	
Brush application	Ok	Small areas only	
Roller application	Ok	Small areas only	
Maintenance and repair	Ok	Ok	
New construction	Ok	Another formulation required	

The ABC3 datasheet and application instructions are straightforward. The competitor's AF range is complex and confusing relating to the use of various formulations for new building and M&R as well as various trading patterns. In addition their various recoating and dry times at various temperatures increase the opportunity for error. *ABC3 is a practical product that is straightforward to use, completely suitable for its market and proven in use in that market.*