TECHNICAL INFORMATION SHEET

GLAZING USING PUTTY AND GLAZING COMPOUNDS

PUTTY FRONTING

This is the technique of glazing single panes of glass into timber or metal frames using a setting type of fronting putty such as Hodgson Sealants Multipurpose Putty. The putty is used to bed the glass into the frame rebate and then applied as a triangular fillet (putty fronting) to the external face of the glazing. Regular putty should never be applied as an internal putty fronting as putty does not set correctly when applied in this manner.

Multi Purpose Putty
As the name suggests, this type of putty is suitable for use in primed softwood/hardwood and primed metal frames. Over painting using a good quality solvent based non-microporous paint system is essential once the putty has formed a skin firm enough to accept the actions of overcoating (usually between 7 to 10 days). It is not recommended to overcoat the putty before it has formed a firm skin as this will result in a wrinkled surface and the putty is likely to remain too soft. Overcoating using microporous*/water based** paint or stain finishes is **not** recommended.

Multipurpose putty is best overcoated using a traditional solvent bourn alkyd based undercoat/gloss paint system. This type of paint effectively seals the surface of the putty protecting it from the elements. The service life of the putty is greatly influenced by regular and proper maintenance of the paint system.

Initial setting of Multipurpose Putty occurs in primed porous softwood by the absorption of a small amount of oil into the timber and the loss of a small amount of volatile content or in the case of a non-porous frame the loss of a small amount of volatile content only. The initial set is also accompanied by the formation of a surface skin. Further setting of the putty occurs through continued oxidation of the vegetable oils and may take several months or longer depending upon the size of the putty fillet and the exposure conditions. Multipurpose Putty contains a small amount of polymer which provides it with the ability to accommodate the thermal movement associated with steel frames.

BEAD GLAZING

This is the technique of glazing single panes of glass into timber frames fitted with timber glazing beads using a hand-applied non-setting glazing compound such as Hodgson Sealants Butyl 66 Glazing Compound. The compound is used to bed the glass into the frame and also to bed the beading to the glass. The glazing system can have internal or externally fitted beads.

Butyl 66 Glazing Compound
Butyl 66 is suitable for use as the sole glazing compound for the bead glazing single glass into softwood or hardwood frames. To ensure the best performance from the Glazing Compound and prevent premature failure of the compound, it is essential to seal the glazing surfaces of the rebate and beading using a proprietary shellac based timber sealer. A timber paint primer or base stain will not effectively seal the rebates sufficiently to prevent oil absorption and can lead to premature failure of the putty.

It is essential to overcoat the Glazing compound once it has formed a skin firm enough to accept the actions of overcoating (usually between 7 to 10 days). It is not recommended to overcoat the Glazing Compound before the skin has hardened as this will result in a wrinkled surface to the Compound. Unlike fronting putties, the Glazing Compound can be used in painted or stained frames and is compatible with both microporous* and non-microporous paint/stain finishes. The service life of the Glazing Compound is greatly influenced by regular and proper maintenance of the paint/stain system.

PAINTS AND COATINGS

***Microporous paints/stains;** unlike traditional undercoat/gloss paint systems coatings these allow moisture vapour to pass through them. When exposed to the elements the moisture content of the timber can fluctuate between wet or dry, humid or arid conditions. The continual loss and gain of moisture causes the timber to shrink and swell respectively. When glazing compounds are used between glass (with little or no movement) and timber treated with a microporous coating, the compound requires a degree of plasticity or deformation in order to maintain a weather tight seal. Only Colourglaze possesses the degree of movement required in order to provide this where a traditional putty fronting is desired.

****Unlike the traditional solvent based alkyd paint systems, many of the acrylic water based paint systems do not offer sufficient protection to the putty and can reduce the service life of the putty.

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