
Technical Service Bulletin No. S-19-05

Frequently Asked Questions for Tremco[®]'s Polyurethane Methacrylate (PUMA) Technology Systems

Q: Is the odor emitted by PUMA Technology harmful?

A: No. Tremco PUMA components contain both polyurethane methacrylate and methyl methacrylate. While these ingredients carry a distinct odor, neither are harmful. Please refer to the product SDS on the Tremco Sealants website for additional information.

Q: How long does the odor last?

A: The odor continues until the product is fully cured. The curing process takes approximately 30-45 minutes after being applied with the recommended dosage of Tremco PUMA Initiator. After it is fully cured the smell will dissipate.

Q: How much Tremco PUMA Initiator+ do I use?

A: The dosage of Tremco PUMA Initiator+ is determined by the ambient temperature. This dosage will get higher in colder temperatures and lower in warmer temperatures. There is a minimum threshold of 37.5 grams of Tremco PUMA Initiator per gallon of resin in the hottest temperature range. Please refer to the Application Instructions for any Tremco PUMA Technology system for a reference chart on proper dosages.

Q: Do you have to use a scale to measure the Tremco PUMA Initiator+?

A: Tremco highly recommends using a scale to measure the dosage of Tremco PUMA Initiator because that is the most accurate method. You must not go below the minimum threshold of Tremco PUMA Initiator per gallon of resin for the coating to properly cure.

Q: Do I have to use a primer?

A: Yes. All Tremco PUMA Technology systems require the use of our Tremco PUMA Primer. TREMprime VB Plus Primer is the only alternative primer that can be used, as needed. The primer will be the first coating to go down on the substrate followed by the base coat. You do not need to use primer between coatings.

Q: What is the purpose of the sand in the primer?

A: We use a light broadcast of sand in the primer to increase mechanical bond between the primer and base coat as well as providing shear resistance.

Q: Why do you recommend a metal rake versus a rubber squeegee for applying the coatings?

A: A metal rake wears at a slower rate than a rubber squeegee, especially when pulling it over a sanded coating such as the Tremco PUMA Primer. Using a metal rake with proper technique will help you achieve the required uniform thickness over a greater area.

Q: What is the purpose of the spike roller?

A: The purpose of the spike roller is to help release any air that was captured in the coating while mixing or applying. It is also used to help smooth out any imperfections created in the coating while applying.

Q: What types of aggregate are used with each system?

A: Each system has different requirements for aggregate based on the purpose of the system. Please refer to the Application Instructions for any system to see what aggregates are required.

Q: What are the acceptable substrates?

A: Tremco PUMA Technology systems can be applied on various substrates with the right surface preparation including concrete, plywood, and metal. We can also qualify many different substrates using field testing methods.

Q: Is there a substrate surface requirement?

A: Yes. We require a Concrete Surface Profile (CSP) of 3 to 4 for concrete surfaces. The most common way to achieve this is by shot blasting. We require a near-white metal cleaned surface for metal substrates. Please refer to the Application Instructions for any Tremco PUMA Technology system to get greater detail on substrate surface requirements.

Q: What do I use to clean my tools and the coating?

A: Tremco PUMA Cleaner is the only acceptable cleaner for Tremco's PUMA Technology systems. Traditional construction solvents such as xylene, mineral spirits, acetone, isopropyl alcohol, etc. cannot be used with PUMA Technology. All cleaning of tools and coating must be done with Tremco PUMA Cleaner.

Q: How many days can I wait between coating applications?

A: The acceptable number of days between coats will vary greatly based on weather conditions and the application. Always make sure the coating is clean, dry, and free of any debris before applying another coating on top. Tremco PUMA Cleaner is the only acceptable cleaner for Tremco's PUMA Technology systems.

Q: What components are UV stable?

A: Tremco PUMA Flashing, Tremco PUMA BC R and all variations of Tremco PUMA TC (standard colors, tintable, decorative) are UV stable.

Q: Are there temperature restrictions when applying Tremco's PUMA Technology systems?

A: Tremco's PUMA products can be applied at temperatures as low as 14°F (-10°C.)