

## Directions Governing the Inspection Procedure for Paints

Adopted and promulgated by Ministerial Order No. 10020007420, BSMI, MOEA, on 28 July 2011.

All 9 Articles amended and promulgated by Ministerial Order No. 10120003690, BSMI, MOEA, on 20 April 2012.

Articles 3, 4, 6 and Table FRP-02 of Appendix 5 amended and promulgated by Ministerial Order No. 10420000680, BSMI, MOEA, on 24 April 2015.

All 9 Articles amended and promulgated by Ministerial Order No. 10720000660, BSMI, MOEA, on 19 March 2018.

Article 6 amended and promulgated by Ministerial Order No. 11020000180, BSMI, MOEA, on 29 January 2021, and enforced on 1 February 2021.

1. These Directions are hereby stipulated for implementing the inspection of paints.
2. Inspection Scheme: Type-Approved Batch Inspection or Registration of Product Certification (Module II-Type Test + Module IV-Full Quality Management System, Module V-Production Quality Management or Module VII-Factory Inspection).
3. Terms used by these Directions are defined as follows:
  - (1) Paints subject to mandatory inspection include fire-retardant paints for buildings (hereinafter referred to as fire-retardant paints), ready mixed paints (synthetic resin type), enamel, emulsion paint and solvent-base masonry paints.
  - (2) Classification: the classification specified in the applicable national standards (CNS).
  - (3) Same type:
    - a. Fire-retardant paints: paints of the same classification (specified in CNS 11728), same fire-retardant property (Grade II or Grade III incombustibility), coating process, same production premise and same country of production.
    - b. Paints other than fire-retardant paints: paints of the same production premise and same country of production.
  - (4) Main type:
    - a. Fire-retardant paints: among products of the same type, selection of any products as the main type.
    - b. Paints other than fire-retardant paints: among products of the same type, selection of any products with different national standards and usages (“interior, interior and exterior,” “exterior,” “steel structure” and “large-scale steel structure” specified in Table 2 of CNS 601 “Ready mixed paints (synthetic resin type),” as well as “interior, interior and exterior” and “exterior” specified in Table 2 of CNS 606 “Enamel”) as the main type. Emulsion paint is one single type.
  - (5) Series of type:
    - a. Fire-retardant paints: among products of the same type, those other than the main type shall be regarded as series of type.
    - b. Paints other than fire-retardant paints: among products of the same type, those other than the main type with different national standards and usages (“interior, interior and exterior,” “exterior,” “steel structure” and “large-scale steel structure” specified in Table 2 of CNS 601 “Ready mixed paints (synthetic resin type),” as well as “interior, interior and exterior” and “exterior” specified in Table 2 of CNS 606 “Enamel”) as series of type. Emulsion paint is of single type.
4. Inspection standards and inspection items:
  - (1) Fire-retardant paints: inspection of fire-retardant property, the amount of Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), content of hazardous heavy metals and marking in accordance with CNS 11728.

- (2) Paints other than fire-retardant paints: inspection of the amount of VOCs, emission of formaldehyde, content of hazardous heavy metals and marking in accordance with the applicable national standards.
  - (3) Labelling of "maximum limit of VOCs" and "emission level of formaldehyde" in traditional Chinese may be the values specified in national standards or those declared by the business operator in compliance with national standards. If the labelled values comply with the limit specified in the national standards but do not match the declared values, it shall be regarded as not complying with the inspection standards and processed accordingly.
  - (4) Inspection of labelling of the name of the product, name and address of the obligatory inspection applicant in accordance with Article 11 of the Commodity Inspection Act.
5. Relevant requirements for type test:
- (1) Application procedures for type-test reports:
    - a. The applicant shall make applications to the Bureau of Standards, Metrology and Inspection (BSMI), Ministry of Economic Affairs, its branches (hereinafter referred to as the inspection authority) or BSMI designated testing laboratories by submitting the type classification table of paints (Tables FRP-01 and FRP-02), three copies of the following technical documents and samples for different main types and series of types of the products.
      - (a) List of specifications.
      - (b) Summary of the production process.
      - (c) Samples of labels in traditional Chinese.
      - (d) Samples: two containers, each being at least one liter in volume.
    - b. The unit accepting the applications shall check that the samples match the types or specifications stated in the Type Classification Table.
  - (2) Inspection items: products of each main type and series of type shall be inspected in accordance with the preceding Clause.
  - (3) The type test report may be replaced by a test report under the CNS Mark Certification System of which the issuance date shall be within one year of the application for type approval or Registration of Product Certification (RPC), under the condition that the name and type of the product are the same.
  - (4) Type-test fees: The fees shall be collected in accordance with the fee schedule of the testing unit accepting the applications.
6. Relevant requirements for type approved batch inspection:
- (1) Application procedures for type approval:
    - a. The applicant shall first obtain a type-test report in accordance with the preceding Clause, and apply to the inspection authority for type approval certificates by submitting the application form, type-test report and technical documents.
    - b. Processing time for review type-approval applications: 14 working days after the inspection authority accepts the application (not including the time for delivery of documents or samples). Where additional samples are drawn for testing, such period shall be extended to another 7 working days after the receipt of samples.
    - c. The terms of validity for a type-approval certificate shall be three years. The certificate holder may apply for an extension of the validity period.
  - (2) Relevant requirements for batch inspection

- a. The obligatory inspection applicant shall make the application for inspection to the inspection authority having jurisdiction over the port of entry or location of production of the products by submitting an application form and a copy of the type-approval certificate before the products are imported or released from the factory. The obligatory inspection applicant shall indicate the production date or batch number of the product on the application form.
- b. Each application for inspection shall contain only products of the same type, which shall be treated as one batch. All applications shall be sampled by the inspection authority based on a rate of 20% to draw samples for inspection. If the sampled batch includes different series of type, the inspection authority shall pick each series of type for inspection. Batches not sampled will be subject to the procedure of release after document examination to simplify the inspection process, or batch-by-batch verification when it is deemed necessary.
- c. For products of the same type, if the number of filed batches reaches 20 with no non-compliant records, the sampling rate may be reduced to 5% for fire-retardant paints and 10% for paints other than fire-retardant paints.
- d. Numbers of samples to be taken for inspection: two containers, and each container being at least one litre in volume.
- e. Sampled items are inspected in accordance with Clause 4.
- f. Inspection agency: the BSMI, its Keelung Branch, Taichung Branch and Kaohsiung Branch.
- g. The time required for batch-by-batch inspection is 12 working days after the inspection agency receives the samples.
- h. The test of VOC content of paints shall be done in accordance with CNS 15039-1 "Paints and varnishes - Determination of volatile organic compound (VOC) content-Part 1: Difference method." If results do not comply with the requirements and the VOC level is lower than 15%, a final test shall be performed at the Kaohsiung Branch of the BSMI in accordance with CNS 15039-2 "Paints and varnishes-Determination of volatile organic compound (VOC) content-Part 2: Gas-chromatographic method" to confirm whether the products pass the inspection.
- i. Sampled products that have failed the inspection shall be subject to the following measures:
  - (a) The sampling rate of 20% will resume after products of the same type are sampled for inspection and comply with the requirements for a consecutive of three batches.
  - (b) If part or all of the products fail the inspection, the applicant may apply for separating the products into different batches. For non-compliant products, the obligatory inspection applicant follow the Regulations Governing Disposition of Commodities Failing Inspection to return or destroy the products or make a new application for inspection after completing corrective actions under surveillance. Products passing the inspection shall be released after they become separated batches.
  - (c) The application of separating batches shall be limited to one time only.
- j. The inspection authority shall conduct sampling and inspect the main inspection items upon receiving reports or when there is doubt regarding the consistence of the products under application for inspection.

7. Relevant requirements for Registration of Product Certification (RPC):

- (1) An inspection body (agency) shall examine whether a factory is equipped with the basic testing and inspection equipments, such as cone calorimeters and Kar Fischer, when it is conducting factory inspection. If the factory is not fully equipped, it shall be deemed as a major nonconformity.
  - (2) The application for an RPC certificate shall be submitted along with the following documents:
    - a. Type-test report (application to be made in accordance with Clause 5).
    - b. A copy of the certificate of quality management system registration or the factory inspection report issued by BSMI or certification bodies recognized by the BSMI.
    - c. The declaration of conformity-to-type.
    - d. Relevant technical documents.
  - (3) Time of review: 14 working days after the inspection authority accepts the RPC application (not including the time for delivery of additional documents or samples). Where additional samples are drawn, the time shall be extended to another 7 days after the receipt of the samples.
  - (4) The term of validity for an RPC certificate shall be three years. The certificate holder may apply for an extension, which is limited to one time only.
  - (5) The identification number of Commodity Inspection Mark consists of a letter "R" and a designated code, which may be printed by the obligatory inspection applicants in accordance with relevant regulations.
8. The basic testing and inspection equipment about cone calorimeters mentioned in the preceding Clause may be replaced by the following methods:
- (1) Development of a comparison module:
    - a. The production premises shall have regular testing and inspection equipments, such as the flame-retardant equipment mentioned in CNS 6532, equipment mentioned in ISO 1182, ASTM-E84, UL 723, ISO 1716, EN 13823, ISO 11925-2, ISO 9705, or other equivalent equipment.
    - b. The control value to be implemented by individual production premise shall be based on the results of the comparison between the tests performed by using the regular testing inspection equipments and those by CNS 14705-1 testing equipment.
  - (2) Production control: carrying out tests with the regular testing equipment and using the control value developed by the comparison model to control the quality of products.
  - (3) Tests subcontracted to outside bodies on a regular basis:
    - a. Certified products are sent to the inspection authority, BSMI designated test laboratories or testing laboratories accredited by Taiwan Accreditation Foundation on a regular basis to carry out tests in accordance with CNS 14705-1 regarding fire-retardant performance.
    - b. The test results are used to compare with those performed by the production premises and used as the reference for modifying the control value where it is deemed necessary.
    - c. Frequency of subcontract:
      - (a) One of each type of RPC registered products manufactured each quarter in the first to third quarters shall be subcontracted to outside laboratories to carry out tests in accordance with CNS14705-1 every year. In the fourth

quarter, each of the RPC registered product manufactured in that quarter shall be subcontracted to outside laboratories for tests against the same standard.

(b) Samples of each type of RPC registered products manufactured in the fourth quarter shall be submitted to the RPC certification body accepting the application for record and inspection before the end of the year.

9. Products which are certified by RPC by following the aforementioned Clause shall be processed in accordance with the followings every year:

(1) The test reports issued by outside laboratories shall be regularly sent and samples of each type of RPC registered products manufactured in the fourth quarter shall be sent before the end of the year to the RPC certification body accepting the application for record and inspection. If this is not done, the inspection authority shall conduct border checks or inspection of products before they are released from the production premises in accordance with Article 7 of the Regulations Governing Registration of Product Certification. Tests of samples that are sent to the inspection body shall be completed within one month. If noncompliance is found, the RPC certificate shall be rescinded in accordance with Subparagraph 1, Paragraph 1, Article 42 of the Commodity Inspection Act.

(2) The test reports issued by outside laboratories may be replaced by the test report under the CNS Mark Certification System. One CNS Mark test report can be only used to replace the test report issued by an outside laboratory for one main type or one series of type.

**Type Classification Table of Products**  
[Applicable to fire-retardant paints for buildings]

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Type classification

- (1) C.C.C. Code:
- (2) Chinese name:
- (3) English name:
- (4) Production premises:
- (5) Country of production:
- (6) Main type:
  - a. Type:
  - b. Fire-retardant performance:
  - c. Coating process:
  - d. Classification:
- (7) Series of type:

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2. Checklist of technical documents (the following documents shall be submitted in triplicate for each product seeking type test)

- (1)  List of specifications (type, name of product, classification, fire-retardant performance, coating process).
- (2)  Summary of production process.
- (3)  Samples of the label in traditional Chinese.
- (4)  Samples: two containers, each being at least one liter in volume.

Note: The list of specifications should be arranged in the order of type classification and noted accordingly.

### **Type Classification Table of Products**

[Applicable to ready mixed paints (synthetic resin type), enamel, emulsion paint and solvent-base masonry paints]

Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact person: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone No.: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No.: \_\_\_\_\_

#### 3. Type classification

- (1) C.C.C. Code:
- (2) Chinese name:
- (3) English name:
- (4) Production premises:
- (5) Country of production:
- (6) Applicable National Standards (CNS):
- (7) Main type (name/usage of the product):

\_\_\_\_\_

- (8) Series of type:

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#### 4. Checklist of technical documents (the following documents shall be submitted in triplicate for each product seeking type test)

- (1)  List of specifications (type, name of product, classification, fire-retardant performance, coating process).
- (2)  Summary of production process.
- (3)  Samples of the label in traditional Chinese.
- (4)  Samples: two containers, each being at least one liter in volume.

Note: The list of specifications should be arranged in the order of type classification and noted accordingly.