

FIRETEX® Technical Bulletin

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### **FIRETEX in Plant Rooms and Plant Areas**

In Sherwin-Williams experience, external and/or open sided plant rooms/areas can present some specific challenges when considering fire protection of the structural steelwork:

- Environmental classification – microclimate
- Grated decks
- Attachments/services
- Access

Factors such as reduced air movement due to congestion of the area and localised heating/cooling/moisture from the plant/equipment will influence or dictate the local environmental conditions which may be significantly different to the general classification for the building.

For comments on grated or grating decks please see FIRETEX Technical Bulletin FTB 014.

Plant areas tend to have extensive attachments affixed to the structural steelwork during the building process, to support cable trays or other services.

Once a building enters service typically access to the plant area structural steelwork will be difficult or impossible should any coating repairs be necessary.

It is for the above reasons that Sherwin-Williams, when made aware of a plant area at the specification stage, will suggest a FIRETEX epoxy based intumescent coating is used for the corrosion and fire protection of the structural steelwork. Epoxy intumescent coatings are not thermoplastic and have excellent mechanical durability and the highest level of weathering resistance of any of the intumescent coatings. Considering the difficulty in repairing the coating system applied to plant area steelwork Sherwin-Williams consider FIRETEX epoxy intumescent is the appropriate material for this aspect of a project.

The information herein is subject to revision as a result of additional information or test evidence becoming available, please consult Sherwin-Williams to ensure you have the latest version.

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