



# SUPERIOR PRODUCTS INTERNATIONAL II, INC.

## PRE-APPLICATION APPEARANCE AND PREPARATION OF HOT PIPE COATING

**QUESTION:** After delivery and storage, the top of a pail of HPC has swollen and expanded, and the HPC appears too dry and chunky to use. Is the HPC defective? What causes the swelling of the pail and the dryness of the HPC?

**ANSWER:** HPC is a water-based, ceramic coating and is delivered in a 5 gallon pail. After the pail is sealed and stored, HPC will gradually absorb and dissipate its own water over time. Some air pressure is created in the pail during this process and may cause the top of the pail to expand and swell. This absorption/dissipation process is commonly known as rheology and does not harm or adversely affect the use or performance of the coating.

Rheology occurs when a coating begins to set up because of non-activity. When the coating is stirred and water is added, the rheology allows the coating to relax and loosen and to return to its original consistency.

After opening the pail, the top surface of HPC may appear very dry and dusty with some cracking. As a result, the applicator may believe that HPC is defective or too dry to use. This is not the case, and the appearance of HPC will change dramatically upon proper mixing.

Stir HPC with a six inch (6") diameter dispersion blade on a drill at a low to medium speed while adding water gradually. The coating will slowly return to a paste form as water is added during mixing. Continue to add water gradually while stirring until HPC becomes smooth, light, and fluffy and has the appearance of thick whipped cream. The amount of additional water that will be required will depend on the age of the coating and environmental conditions, but it can vary from one cup of added water to one to two quarts of added water. When properly mixed, HPC will be a smooth paste that is wet to the touch and will adhere easily to the surface. It will not appear lumpy or dry when properly mixed.

If a smoother surface for HPC is desired after application, use a wet, foam roller to lightly roll over the surface of the coating to obtain the desired smoothness.



HPC – Before Mixing In Pail



HPC – Early Stage During Mixing In Pail



HPC – Late Stage During Mixing In Pail



HPC – After Proper Mixing / Ready to Apply



Six Inch Dispersion Blade



Six Inch Dispersion Blade