



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING COMMAND  
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IN REPLY REFER TO:  
9630  
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28 July, 2000

National Paint & Coatings Association  
1500 Rhode Island Ave., NW  
Washington, DC 20005

**SUBJECT: ANNOUNCEMENT TO COMMERCIAL COATINGS MANUFACTURERS CONCERNING  
NAVY PAINT PROCUREMENT OF ARCHITECTURAL COATINGS**

In the last year there have been a number of changes to the Navy's paint procurement specifications. Chief among these changes is that many of the long recognized federal government paint standards and commercial item descriptions have been cancelled with no substitution. Although the Navy has set a goal of utilizing commercial standards, this growing loss of government paint specification standards has expedited our search for a non-government specification solution. Towards that goal, the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) will utilize the paint specifications as written and developed by the Master Painters Institute (MPI).

MPI has two types of paint specifications, Detailed Performance Specifications and Intended Use Product Specifications. The MPI Detailed Performance Specifications are similar to the government paint specifications in using performance requirements to define paint products. MPI tests manufacturers paint samples for conformance to its Detailed Performance standards. The tested paints that comply with the MPI Detailed Performance standards are then listed in the MPI "Approved Product List". With few exceptions, NAVFAC will use the MPI Detailed Performance Specifications for its paint procurement. Therefore, paint manufacturers who wish to supply products for Navy construction must have their paints tested and listed by MPI.

Navy facility construction specifications will soon begin using a new NAVFAC Guide Specification (NFGS) 09900 M, "Paints and Coatings". This new version "M" of our Navy Guide Specification will incorporate MPI paint systems into the paint selection tables. These tables will display both the Federal Specifications/Commercial Item Descriptions and the MPI references for every paint system (where an equal exists) in the specification. Equivalent Federal Specification/Commercial Item Descriptions have been connected with the corresponding MPI paint system as a transitional step. This transitional step should help to alleviate concerns by paint specifiers who might be unfamiliar with MPI paint system numbers. However, this use of both Federal Specification/Commercial Item Descriptions and MPI reference numbers will be brief. We plan to remove the Federal Specification/Commercial Item Descriptions as soon as possible and proceed with MPI references only.

This announcement is issued to encourage all manufacturers who intend to compete for future Navy facility contracts to have your products tested and listed in the MPI "Approved Product List" as soon as possible. With the use of the new version NFGS 09900 M "Paints and Coatings", NAVFAC will use the MPI "Approved Product List" to approve compliance of construction paint submittals. Contact MPI at (604) 298-7578 for specific instructions dealing with paint testing. MPI is located in Burnaby, British Columbia near Vancouver. The MPI website is located at <http://www.paintinfo.com>.

If you have any technical paint questions concerning this change to the NFGS 09900 M you may contact Mr. Calvin Crofford at (757) 322-4302 or by email at [croffordhc@efdlant.navfac.navy.mil](mailto:croffordhc@efdlant.navfac.navy.mil) or Mr. Daniel A. Zarate at (805) 982-1057 or by email at [zarateda@nfesc.navy.mil](mailto:zarateda@nfesc.navy.mil). If you have overall NAVFAC Guide Specification questions you may contact Mr. Carl Kersten at (757) 322-4210 or by email at [kerstencd@efdlant.navfac.navy.mil](mailto:kerstencd@efdlant.navfac.navy.mil). Future updates of NAVFAC criteria may be obtained at <http://criteria.navfac.navy.mil/criteria>.

Sincerely,

*R. David Curfman*  
R. D. CURFMAN  
By direction