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Report on trial of SP2888 over trilaminate coating

Purpose

To test the adhesion of epoxy coatings to trilaminate coatings, particularly the polyethylene outer layer.

Method

Application of SP 2888 was conducted on 26/7/05 at McElligott's Laverton premises.

A sample of 350 mm DN Socotherm TriKote FBE/adhesive/PE coated pipe supplied by GasNet Australia was thoroughly grit blasted to class 2.5 Sa and a profile of about 80 um. The FBE layer and polyethylene outer wrap were thoroughly whip blasted.

SP2888 was applied using a roller by Mr P. Miller representing Specialty Polymer Coatings Australasia.

Results
On the 11/8/05 Mr A. Bryson of GasNet checked the dry film thickness, Barcol hardness and adhesion of SP2888 to the polyethylene outer layer of the Trilaminate coating. The adhesion test was conducted in accordance with AS3894.9 Site testing of protective coatings, Method 9: Determination of adhesion.

Results	
SP 2888 Coating thickness	1.3 mm
Barcol hardness	80 - 85
Adhesion rating	0 (no removal – attempts at removal with knife blade resulted in removal of some or all of the polyethylene)

Conclusion

SP2888 demonstrated good adhesion to the polyethylene coating. Normal practice to date has been to avoid overlapping epoxy coatings onto polyethylene and to use a heat shrink sleeve at the polyethylene – epoxy coating transition. The result of this test indicates that the use of a heat shrink sleeve at the interface is unnecessary provided the polyethylene is thoroughly whip blasted.

Report prepared by A. Bryson 12/8/05