

# SUMMER IS COMING

# PRACTICAL TIPS

# FOR SUMMER REFINISH WORK

Summer brings hot temperatures, often coupled with either very high or very low humidity. Despite these demanding conditions, it is still possible to achieve outstanding refinish results, with a few simple tips.

## Tip 1.

### Determine temperature and humidity levels

It is important to ascertain the ambient temperature of the spray booth prior to mixing both solvent and waterborne paint, as the temperature and humidity levels will determine the adjustments required to make the product application easy, avoiding unnecessary increases in paint used.

## Tip 2.

### Consider waterborne elements

Summer can mean high humidity which can affect the application of a waterborne basecoat system. At higher humidity these paints are easier to apply, however longer than normal flash off times are to be expected. Increasing air volume through specific drying equipment can also make a big difference. In a hot and dry environment, however, waterborne basecoats dry very quickly, which represents a challenge for refinishers if the spray mist is not absorbed properly, dry underspray and clouding can occur. The correct product setting will keep the paint flowing long enough during application under difficult conditions to achieve good surface wetting. The use of a larger spray gun nozzle and set up can also help in extreme climates.

## Tip 3.

### Choose the right combination of hardener and thinner

When clear coats are applied at high temperatures, choosing the right hardener and thinner is critical. To avoid drying problems, such as blisters and other defects, and to ensure an impeccable result in terms of gloss and flow, refinishers should choose slower drying products. It's also important to slow wet on wet primers, using slower hardeners and thinners (the slowest to suit the driest conditions) to help with overspray absorption, provide the smooth laydown required for top coats.

## Tip 4.

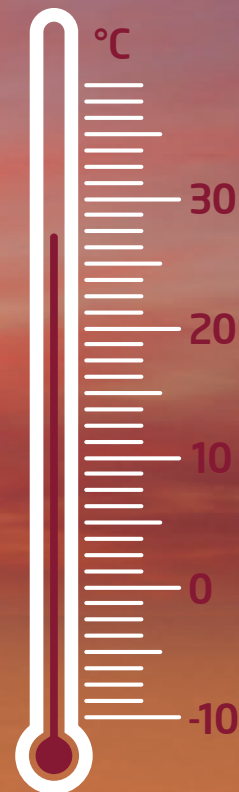
### Paint in the morning

As the temperature tends to rise during the day, and the drying cycles make it almost impossible to lower the temperature, it is advisable to carry out larger or more demanding refinish jobs in the morning when it is cooler. Plan your spray booth usage sequence of vehicles carefully when the weather forecast predicts extreme temperatures.

## Tip 5.

### Wear a sweatband!

In high humidity it can be beneficial to wear sweatbands to prevent beads of sweat falling onto the fresh paintwork and ruining the job.



**Summer climates around Australia and New Zealand may differ. Our Technical Consultants can provide you with local advice on high-temperature applications to suit your bodyshop's conditions or details can be found on the technical datasheets.**



1 Refinish work in summer is carried out under tougher conditions, but a few simple steps can still lead to first-class results.

