

## Prestige and Classic Cars.



## A question of insulation.

### Old paintwork as a substrate.

**When applying 2K acrylic fillers over such finishes as nitrocellulose or thermoplastic paints, there may be a subsequent loss of adhesion. When refinishing substrates that are sensitive to solvents, an epoxy resin primer filler is therefore a good alternative.**

Is the old paint stable? And can I overcoat on top of it? These are two critical questions professional refinishers should ask themselves before spraying a modern refinishing paint onto historic paintwork.

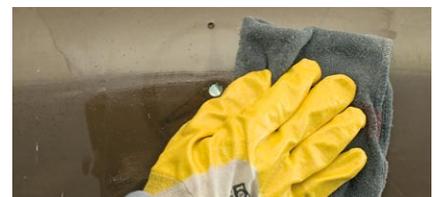
After all, historic cars were often coated with nitrocellulose or thermoplastic paints. Both paint types may wrinkle off the metal if they get in contact with solvents, e.g. contained in a 2K acrylic filler. This will have an adverse impact not only on adhesion but also on the looks of the entire finish. This kind of old paintwork is therefore not always a suitable substrate for a second finish.

To find out whether the old paintwork is sensitive to solvents, Standox recommends to conduct the solvent test, which delivers quick and reliable results.

In the best case, the old paintwork shows no reaction, i.e. it does not become soft and does not come off but stays as hard as before. This substrate can then be refinished without any risk in accordance with the Standox recommendations.

In the worse case, the old paintwork reacts to the solvent by becoming soft, swelling or coming off entirely. As a result, it will no longer adhere to the substrate. You will then have to remove the paint from the complete body and explain to your customer that they will incur additional costs.

Should your customer be unwilling to bear these additional costs, Standox has a professional alternative to offer. Sheet metal covered by an old paint that is sensitive to solvents can be insulated using an epoxy resin primer filler without any loss of quality. Combining a primer and a filler, it is less aggressive on the old paintwork and is equal to a 2K acrylic filler in terms of filling power and topcoat gloss. It thus forms an excellent base for the subsequent application of the topcoat.



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When it comes to drying refinished sensitive paintwork, you should also deviate from your usual routine. After all, the paint may be thermoplastic, in which case air drying is the safest alternative.

Thermoplastic paints were introduced in the 1940s – above all in the USA – when they replaced nitrocellulose paints. The latter were easy to spray and dried fast but also had to be polished thoroughly after application. By contrast, thermoplastic paints shone like new immediately after drying.

However, they are not very suitable as substrates for a modern repair, as they will become soft both when getting into contact with solvents and when exposed to extreme heat. Given that a soft substrate and a solid refinishing paint will work against each other, there is a risk of cracks forming.

Should you be in doubt about the type of substrate at hand, Standox therefore recommends air drying instead of oven drying. While this will take a bit longer, it is certainly the safer option. This method is also clearly preferential from the customer's point of view, because investing a few hours here means that they can be sure for their "old treasure" to make an excellent impression for many years to come.

Further information:

- Standothek: Perfect substrate preparation for brilliant results.

### Imprint

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