

01 BASIC CONCEPTS
b) WHAT IS PAINT?

Paint is a liquid or paste applied onto a surface through the adequate system. This paint then hardens creating a

skin which sticks to the metal and protects it from corrosion.

It is made from the following ingredients:

PIGMENTS

Their main job is to give colour and opacity to the paint layer.

BINDERS

This is a basic ingredient in paint. It allows the paint to make a hard layer after the paint has dried. Paints use

binders to improve their mechanical and chemical properties and to increase the surface protection.

SOLVENTS

Their main job is to allow an easy application of the paint by making it more liquid. Normally, paints that do not use solvents and have only a base

pigment and a binder, are very thick and very difficult to apply. Solvents also help to keep the paint in good condition in the container.

ADDITIVES

Chemical products which can be added to paint in small proportions to improve the quality of the paint. They

can also produce special effects, speed up the drying process, increase the thixotropy and allow tinting, etc.

