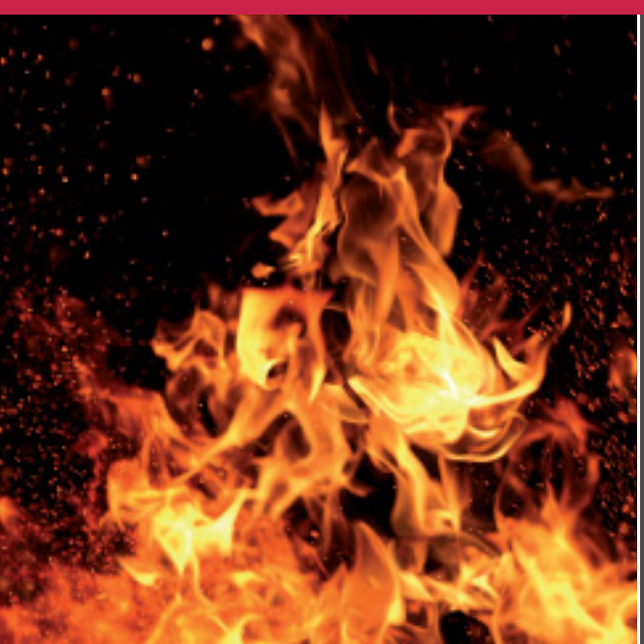
FIRE PROTECTION AND THERMAL BARRIER SOLUTIONS

fire

Passive Fire Protection



Designed and tested to exceptionally high standards, **FIRETEX®** range offers fire protection solutions, which chemically react in the event of a fire to protect the steel, and lengthen the time taken for it to reach its critical failure temperature.

FIRETEX® providing you with **world class intumescents.**

FIRETEX
Passive Fire Protection

Passive Fire Protection

FIRETEX® FX Range

Designed specifically with the needs of the construction industry in mind, the FX Range provides cost effective, yet aesthetically pleasing solutions which allow the steel elements of your project to become architectural features.

Providing solutions for both shop and site applications, be it solvent or water based, Firetex thin film coating compositions can protect steelwork from cellulosic fires from 30 up to 120 minutes.

The benefits:

- The quick drying composition allows greater application effficiency both off and on site.
- Its unique low dry-film thickness makes it more cost effective as required thicknesses can be achieved in fewer applications.
- Thanks to the durability of the range, damage during transportation is limited, as are the harmful effect of most weather conditions.
- Good viscosity allows for a smoother, more aesthetically pleasing finish.
- The ease of application allows your project to be completed quicker, whilst not compromising the finish.

A Cost Effective System

Firetex is a leading brand and thanks to the in-depth research and development programme, Leighs Paints **Firetex** range offers low film intumescent coatings using the latest technologies.

More and more designers are using structural steel as a means to be visually creative and **Firetex** allows just that - a functional surface that's hard and smooth enough to provide a sensational finish.

As well as being aesthetically pleasing, the **Firetex** range is designed and manufactured to meet the ever increasing demands of fast track construction, which means the design and construction team have a cost effective and creative solution.

Whether application is carried out in shop or on site, fast application by airless spray means minimum disruption to other trades - in turn saving valuable contract time.

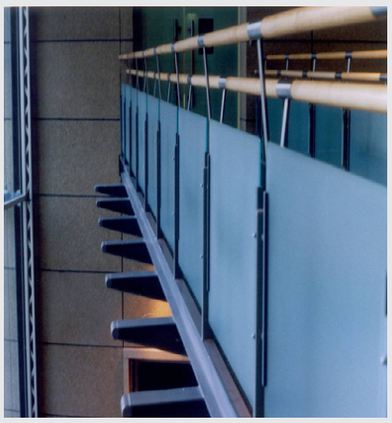
Dust and dirt resistant (at normal room temperatures), **Firetex** coatings also lend themselves to hygiene areas and environments that demand high standards of cleanliness.

In addition, improved char integrity and enhanced stickability means **Firetex** coatings produce minimal char erosion during testing. Asbestos free, Firetex products also avoid limitations in use, storage and disposal normally associated with these types of products.

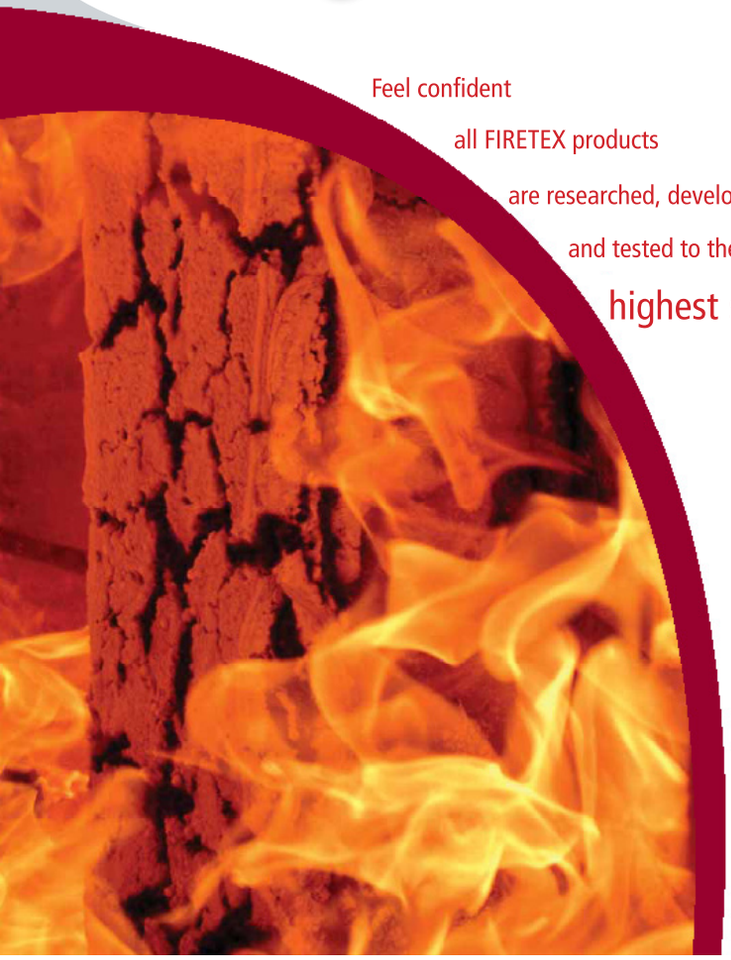
A Practical System

Firetex systems can be applied at temperatures down to 5°C, and at RH's up to 85% -in cold or humid conditions. However it is important to ensure that no condensation conditions exist prior to the application of the **Firetex** coatings, so steel temperatures must always be at least 3°C above dew point.

Excellent storage stability saves time during the application process as it ensures minimum mixing or preparation before application - be it by brush or by spray.



Testing



Leighs Paints insist that all Firetex materials are tested to the highest international standards. Using state of the art facilities at the unique "Firetex Test Centre" each product is tested by the manufacturer and then independently tested and verified.

Independently Verified Systems

Firetex systems by Leighs Paints carry third party verification under the Certifire Scheme, operated by Bodycote Warningtonfire, and the British Standards Institution.

The Certifire scheme allows designers, insureres, specifiers and contractors to be certain that manufacturers' production and quality control procedures will adhere to the standard laid down by ISO 9001:2000. Most importantly, this scheme also verifies the authenticity of product performance claims.

Firetex products are also tested and assessed by UKAS (United Kingdom Accreditation Service) approved laboratories to BS476 Part 21:1987 - test methods and criteria for the fire resistance of elements of building construction. The assessments are all based on the criteria laid down in the "Industry Guidance Document" published in the ASFP (Association for Specialist Free Protection) 'Yellow Book'.

With a team of in-house intumescent specialists and a world leader of launching intumescents, Leighs Paints is a proactive member of the ASFP and deeply involved in developing new industry standards with BS, CEN and ISO.

ASFP
www.asfp.org.uk

certifire

BRANZ

AS1530.4
Classification

Passive Fire Protection

Heavy investment in new technology have created innovative products, some of which are patented. Firetex intumescent coatings provide consistent quality, meeting the designers, insurers. specifiers and contractors requirements.

Firetex Coatings

Fire-protect steelwork for up to 2 hours (BS476 Part 21:1 1987 & AS 1530.4) at low film thicknesses. Both water based and solvent based coatings are extremely durable and provide a smooth finish for decorative areas.

Firetex is distributed by Altex Coatings

Technical Helplines:
Australia 1800 738 383
New Zealand 0800 258 390

Life Expectancy

Firetex systems are tested even after ageing and weathering. The result -minimal change in intumescent foam production and insulating properties.

How paint systems perform depend on several factors, such as:

- type of paint system
- design of the structure
- condition of the substrate after preparation
- standard of the application work
- conditions during application
- exposure conditions after application

Corrosivity or severity of exposure conditions are defined in ISO 12944 as C1 - very low to C5 - very high.

Provided that the coated surfaces have not been subjected to abnormal conditions (e.g. elevated temperatures or contaminated with any chemical spillage) and all areas of mechanical damage are repaired (before the onset of localised breakdown) then typical life expectancy to first maintenance would be as follows, provided the correct topcoat system is used:

C1 Life of Building
Dry internal controlled environments

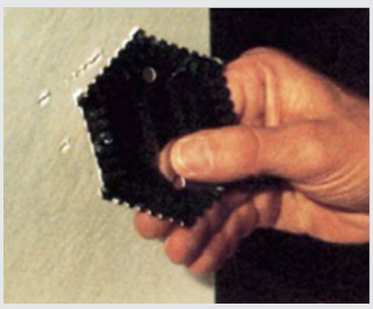
C2 Up to 20 years
Internal semi-controlled environments subject to temperature fluctuation where condensation may occur

C3 Up to 10 years
Internal damp semi-controlled environments

C4 Up to 10 years
Internal uncontrolled frequently wet with condensation

C5 Up to 10 years
Most external environments

Passive Fire Protection



Preparation

Surfaces should be abrasive blast cleaned to minimum Sa 2.5 BS EN ISO 8501-1:2001 with a surface profile not exceeding 100 microns. Any spent abrasive should be removed by vacuum, clean compressed air or brush.

An appropriate primer should be applied within 4 hours of cleaning or before the surface has re-rusted, in accordance with Leighs technical instructions.

All primed surfaces must be clean, dry and free from dirt, grease etc. Mechanical damage must be made good with the approved priming system.

Where mechanical damage exists, scrape back to a firm edge and feather in. Remove an appropriate quantity of FX product from the pail, spread out on a surface to allow some of the solvent to evaporate to obtain a putty like consistency. Apply by knife or trowel. Where necessary overcoat with appropriate topcoat to required shade.

Large areas of mechanical damage will necessitate scraping back to firm edges and the application of the original **Firetex** system to the required dry film thickness (dft).

Application

Whatever your preference, most **Firetex** systems can be applied by airless spray or brush. There are advantages to both - it's your choice !

Airless spray can be particularly cost effective when applying solvent or water based coatings. One coat will provide 1 hour fire protection to many steel sections giving a decorative appearance. Brush on the other hand normally requires at least twice as many coats and will give a ribbed look (due to the nature of the material) - and some applicators feel more in control using this type of application.

Most importantly, it is essential that specified thicknesses are achieved - failure to do so could result in the loss of life. We recommend the frequent measuring of wet film thicknesses during application with care to be taken to build the correct dry film loading.

Can Firetex be topcoated?
The short answer is yes!

Contact Altex Coatings Ltd for more information
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fire

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