



Identifying Water-Based Materials Damaged by Age and/or Temperature

Water-based coatings (including cures, sealers, cure & seals, wall coatings, etc) are created using specialized techniques to blend components that generally do not like one another (like oil and water). Carefully controlled temperatures, the use of homogenizer mixers, and special surfactants are combined to create an “emulsion” of coating particles suspended in water.

The passage of time and/or unfavorable environmental conditions can damage or “break” an emulsion, making the product unusable. Conditions to avoid include:

- Unused material more than 1 year old.
- Storage in high heat and/or direct sunlight.
- Storage in temperatures below freezing.
- Open transportation in temperatures below 40°F (5°C)

If one of these conditions occurs, a visual inspection may be made to determine product usability:

- Damaged or deformed containers may indicate prior freezing and/or heat exposure.
- Material that appears gray in color and/or smell like rotten eggs may indicate excessive age or bacterial growth.
- Product that appears lumpy or similar to cottage cheese may indicate the emulsion has been broken from excessive cold exposure.

If a water-based product has been damaged in this way, it's not possible to “re-emulsify” the product. Call your local distributor or ChemMasters Technical Service for further instructions.

Tech Tips:

- Always rotate your stock so older material is consumed first.
- Store unopened material in a cool, dry location away from direct sunlight or sources of heat.
- Tightly re-seal partially consumed containers immediately after use.
- Do not store in a location subject to temperatures below 50°F (10°C).
- Do not transport in an open vehicle in temperatures below 40°F (5°C). Significant air movement will cause products to freeze at temperatures well above 32°F (0°C).
- Contact ChemMasters Technical Service Department at 1-800-486-7866 if you have any questions or problems regarding potentially damaged water-based products, or any other ChemMasters materials.