The purpose of this Technical Service Bulletin is to address questions regarding the origin and management of the temporary odor emitted by Tremco’s Polyurethane Methyl Methacrylate (referred to moving forward as “PUMA”) systems. The odor is only present while the system is curing, and originates from one of the constituent ingredients of this product, Poly Methyl Methacrylate (referred to moving forward as “PMMA”). PMMA technology has been safely used in commercial coating and waterproofing applications for over 40 years. Though PMMA always emits a noticeable odor while in an uncured state, it is important to recognize that the odor is temporary in nature, normal, and is not necessarily harmful.

The following PUMA system components contain PMMA as part of their formulation:

- Tremco PUMA Cleaner
- Tremco PUMA Primer
- Tremco PUMA BC (all grades)
- Tremco PUMA WC
- Tremco PUMA TC

The odor emitted by the PMMA element of these system components should always be managed through the use of adequate ventilation, and as with all commercial coating products, applied in strict compliance with the manufacturer’s published recommendations. Often, odor can be greatly reduced or eliminated entirely via changes to air flow in the vicinity of the installation. Suitable ventilation strategies to mitigate or eliminate odor include (but are not limited to):

- Fresh air louver adjustments
- Passive continuous air circulation (i.e.— passive draft via opened windows, doors, vents, etc.)
- Active continuous air circulation (i.e.— forced draft via native HVAC blowers, portable fans, etc.)
- Charcoal air filters (either native to the structure’s HVAC system, or, as portable units, etc.)

In any instance where odor presents a concern, air quality testing may be necessary to ensure that chemical concentration levels remain below exposure limits established by applicable health standards. Furthermore, engineering, administrative, and/or personal protective measures may be applied after the chemical concentration in the air has been verified and compared to the Permissible Exposure Limits (“PEL”) for the odor-causing substance in question; these limits are listed in the product’s Safety Data Sheet (“SDS”).

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