

Proposed draft for Supplement
to Red Lead Technical Letter No. 11

RECOMMENDED
SURFACE PREPARATION
OF STEEL FOR
RED LEAD PAINTS

COMMERCIAL BLAST CLEANING

Red Lead Technical Letter No. 11, which was issued in September, 1956, was devoted to recommendations for the preparation of steel surfaces for the application of red lead paints. Those recommendations were intended to give optimum results from the paint. It is recognized that conditions do not always permit the optimum methods of preparation to be used, cost, location, time and other factors sometimes making a compromise necessary.

Therefore, this Supplement is issued to include Commercial Blast Cleaning (SSPC-SC 6-52T) which was not mentioned in the original Technical Letter. This method is quite similar to Blast Cleaning to White Metal (SSPC-SC 5-52X) which was described and is often used in the latter's place where something less than the best cleaning can be tolerated. The following, quoted from the Commercial Blast Cleaning specification itself, explains the difference:

"1.2 Commercial Blast Cleaning should be employed for all general purposes where a high, but not perfect, degree of blast cleaning is required. It will remove practically all rust, mill scale, and other detrimental matter from the surface. The surface will not necessarily be uniform in color, nor will all surfaces be uniformly clean since the original condition of the surface will affect the final result. If the surface prior to cleaning is in such bad condition that the cleaning when done accor-

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"ding to this specification results in a surface unsatisfactory to the owner or unsuitable for very severe service, then Blast Cleaning to 'White' Metal should be specified. The advantage of this method of cleaning lies in the lower cost for satisfactory surface preparation for most service conditions."