

Supplier Paint Material Preparation Notification

Date: 12/05/2025

BAE Systems has seen an increase in paint adhesion issues on steel and aluminum products. Cleaning methods allowed per the Technical Data Package (TDP) include mechanical or abrasive blast, solvent, detergent, and other aqueous processes. Pretreating is required using organic or inorganic pretreatment, conversion coating, or anodizing. BAE Systems is requesting our suppliers to utilize mechanical abrasion methodologies where allowed in the TDP in addition to chemical etching methods, if used. In the near future, BAE Systems is moving toward updating paint specification requirements to include mandatory mechanical abrasion and, to prepare the supply base we are asking you to incorporate this direction at your earliest opportunity.

MIL-DTL-53072 requires abrasive blast in accordance with section 3 3.2.3 of the specification evoking abrasive blast.

3.2.3 Aluminum and aluminum alloy surfaces. Aluminum and aluminum alloys shall be cleaned in accordance with 3.2, followed by deoxidation and treatment as specified in 3.3 and according to manufacturer's instructions. Aluminum thicker than 1/8th inch and fabricated from 5000 series armor grade aluminum shall be abrasive blasted, unless otherwise indicated by the contract or purchase order.

In the event leveraging this direction is deemed to cause detrimental effects to the product you are building please align a process per the TDP requirements that produces a compliant part.

Thank you for your continued support