

Cetol BL Unitop

A colourless protective water-borne varnish for use on interior smooth planed hardwood and softwood trim, such as doors, door frames, skirtings, wood panelling, furniture etc. Protects against abrasion and impact damage.

Can also be used as a protective finish over other decorative coatings such as Cetol BL Decor.



Properties

Composition	Urethane/acrylic resin, dispersed in water.
Coating system	Three coats alone on interior timbers for a colourless finish, or two coats onto other coloured coatings for additional protection.
Finish	Satin colourless. Where a coloured finish is required, Cetol BL Decor may be used (see Data sheet). As with most coatings, the final appearance and sheen are dependent on a number of factors, including the timber species, colour and cut, and the presence of any existing coating. A trial application is strongly recommended prior to the commencement of work.
Recommended Application Rate	12-18m ² per litre. These figures are intended as a guide. The actual coverage will depend on a number of factors, including timber species, surface condition, moisture content, method of application, conditions during application, and presence of other coatings.
Min. Wet Film thickness	The first coat should satisfy the absorption/porosity of the timber surface. Refer to "Applying the product". Second and subsequent coats, approximately 35 micrometres per coat on non-absorbent surfaces.
Dry Film thickness	Approximately 10 micrometres per coat on non-absorbent surfaces.
Drying time (@10°C/85%RH)	Touch dry : 2 hours Recoatable : 5 hours
Note:	<i>Drying times are dependent upon absorption of substrate, temperature and relative humidity levels. At low temperatures and/or conditions of high relative humidity, or in poorly ventilated areas, drying periods will be extended. Minimum recommended application temperature 8°C.</i>
Volume Solids	Approximately 27%.
Volatile Organic Compound	EU Limit value for this product (cat. A/e) : 150g/l (2007) / 130g/l (2010). This product contains max 130g/l VOC.
Colour Range	Colourless only.
Packaging/Can Size	Cetol BL Unitop is available in 1 and 2.5 litre cans.
Preparation	Ensure the timber surface is suitably prepared, clean and dry, with dust, dirt, wax and grease removed, and allowed to acclimatise to its end-use environment. The moisture content should not exceed 14% prior to coating. We do not recommend the use of "knotting agents" as they are not always fully effective in "sealing in" resin. In addition, the presence of knots is often highlighted, and adhesion of coatings can be impaired. When filling, be sure to use fillers specifically designed for use with timber. General or all-purpose fillers are not suitable, particularly on external areas, as they cannot cope with timber movement and work loose. Only use non-rusting screws, nails and fixings.
New timber	Degrease any exposed bare timber surface by wiping with a cloth dampened with methylated spirits. Certain timber species contain high levels of natural wood extractives or exudates and some softwoods can be highly resinous. Resinous deposits should be removed with a scraper. Any remaining residues should be removed using a lint-free cloth dampened with methylated spirits, frequently changing the face of the cloth. Allow solvent to evaporate fully before overcoating. The use of both eye and hand protection is strongly advised.
Damaged or decayed timber	All damaged or decayed timber must be removed and replaced, cutting at least 25mm into sound timber. We do not recommend the use of wood hardeners. Secure any new spliced-in timber with non-ferrous fixings and fill all voids surrounding the spliced-in area with the Componex WR Primer/filler system.
Product Application	Conditions: Do not apply when air/substrate temperatures are below 8°C or above 25°C during application or drying periods. Protect from frost until dry. Failure to meet these requirements may adversely affect the drying, visual quality and durability of the finish.
Initial procedure	Ensure product is thoroughly stirred before and during application, otherwise sheen variations may be experienced. Cetol BL Unitop is supplied ready for use. Do not thin. For best results use a good quality synthetic-fibre brush specifically designed for the application of water-borne products.
Applying the product	Apply the product in a full flowing coat, laying off in the direction of the grain, using the minimum number of brushstrokes required to produce an even finish. Avoid overbrushing, which creates brushmarks and will reduce the protection afforded. This initial coat should satisfy the porosity/absorption of the timber. Carefully denib the first coat using a fine grade nylon abrasive pad or a fine grade (P240 or finer) wet or dry silicon carbide abrasive paper. Remove all dust. Three coats of Cetol BL Decor should be applied, allowing a minimum of 5 hours drying time between coats or a two coat application onto a coloured coating such as Cetol BL Decor for protection.

Cleaning equipment

Brushes should be cleaned immediately after use with warm, soapy water, and then rinsed thoroughly with clean water. If spilled, **Cetol BL Unitop** may be removed immediately while still wet, using warm, soapy water.

Storage

Reseal can after use and store tightly closed to prevent evaporation of the product and entry of air. Avoid including greater proportion of air to the product. Please note that even if there is a higher proportion of product to air in the can, once opened, the shelf life of the product is unpredictable. Store in cool, dry, frost-free conditions.

Maintenance of existing coatings

Cetol BL Unitop treated surfaces may be cleaned by wiping down with a moistened cloth and then buffing with a dry cloth to restore the original sheen. The use of silicone-based polishes or wax is not recommended, as they tend to accumulate dirt and require complete removal before maintenance.

If maintenance becomes necessary, the surfaces should be lightly sanded with a fine grade abrasive paper. If the timber has been stained, avoid sanding back to the underlying stain. Remove all sanding dust thoroughly and apply one or two coats of **Cetol BL Unitop**.

For maintenance of other colourless varnishes in a less sound condition, any loose, flaking coating should be removed by use of a scraper and abrasive paper. In damp areas (e.g. kitchens and bathrooms), mould or mildew may be evident. This must be eradicated using a suitable fungicide. Wash surfaces with water and a mild detergent to achieve a clean surface. Rinse thoroughly and allow to dry completely. Bare timber should be patch primed with one coat of **Cetol BL Unitop**, and brought forward with one or more coats of **Cetol BL Unitop**, in order to achieve an even, overall surface build coating. Apply a further coat of **Cetol BL Unitop** as described in the Application section. Where coloured coatings are being maintained, the patch priming and bringing forward should be carried out with a similar product to the existing finish.

Coatings in a poor condition should be removed completely and the surface must be thoroughly sanded, then treated as "New timber".

General Information

Apply all products in accordance with BS 6150: 1991 and BS 8000 : Part 12 : 1989 (see Standards section).

Every care is taken to ensure that the information provided in this technical data sheet is accurate. **Akzo Nobel Specialist Coatings** are unable to guarantee results as we have no control over the conditions under which our products are applied.

For further advice and information contact the Technical Advice Centre on **01480 484275**. Before using this product ensure that you have the latest information available. The information above is correct at the date of issue.

Standards

BS 6150: 1991 - Code of practice for painting of buildings
BS 8000 : Part 12 : 1989 - Workmanship on building sites. Code of practice for decorative wallcoverings and painting

Information on British Standards can be obtained from the British Standards Institute, tel: 0208 996 9001.

Safety, Health and Environment

It is the policy of **Akzo Nobel Specialist Coatings** to provide the highest standard of information and to this end, material safety data sheets covering every **Akzo Nobel Specialist Coatings** product are supplied to our customers and are freely available on request.

Removal of lead paint

Special precautions should be taken during the preparation of pre-1960s paint surfaces as they may contain harmful lead. A guide on "How to remove old lead paint safely" is available via the British Coatings Federation Ltd. (Tel. 01372 360660).

Removal of coatings (general)

Treatments such as sanding and burning off, etc. of paint films may generate hazardous dust and/or fumes. Work in well ventilated areas. Use suitable personal (respiratory) protective equipment.

The safety phrases on the containers and material safety data sheets should be read before using this product.

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