

# XIM SPECIFICATION NO. 1008

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## PRIMING FORMICA & LIKE SURFACES

### APPLICABLE SURFACES:

Many Surfaces on cabinets, walls, etc. are Formica® and similar laminated surfaces. The primer is a key factor in bonding the topcoat paint to the surface when re-decorating.

### BACKGROUND:

Formica® is a combination resin (phenolic/melamine) processed with paper. The finished product is normally hard and glossy and will put a high adhesion demand on any coating system. The basic rules for surface preparation are a clean and dull surface.

### PRODUCTS:

#### Primers:

400W White Quick Dry, Solvent Based Bonding Primer (Product No. 1102)

400W ES, Bonding Primer (Product No. 1144)

400 Clear Quick Dry, Solvent Based Bonding Primer (Product No. 1101)

Advanced Technology UMA brand® White Water Based Bonding Primer (Product No. 1105)

Advanced Technology UMA brand® Tintable Water Based Bonding Primer (Product No. 1106)

#### Top Coat Paints:

Use top quality acrylic or alkyd paint. Epoxy or urethane paints can also be used as top coats over XIM UMA.

### SURFACE PREPARATION:

The surface must be clean and free from dirt, grease, oil, wax, soap residue, old paint and other contaminants. Clean by scrubbing with a strong detergent or by washing with an abrasive detergent and abrasive pad. Rinse completely and allow to dry. Areas saturated with oil or grease can also be cleaned with xylene or XIM GON™. Reduce glossy surfaces by scuff sanding with 220 to 325 silicon carbide sand paper. Remove all dust before priming. Be careful of cleaners that leave a residue behind.

### APPLICATION:

The primers recommended may be applied by brush, roll or spray. Follow the application instructions for the various primers as outlined on the data sheets and labels. Generally about 1.0 mil is the desired dry film thickness. Each primer will have its own spread rate; check label and data sheets.

### CONSIDERATIONS:

One of the prime reasons to paint a hard surface like Formica is to change the color, not the gloss or the texture. Adhesion of the primer must therefore be outstanding. A strong recommendation is made for use of a STA (Standard Test Area). The STA must include the exact type and system of products to be used on the final job.