

PCA P11

Painter's Caulk

1. Scope

- 1.1 The purpose of this Standard is to define painter's caulk, determine its suitability and establish its placement whether delineated, implied or not referenced in the contract documents for painting.
- 1.2 It is the intent of this document to specifically address by inclusion or exclusion, joints, cracks, junctions and voids in relation to the application of painter's caulk whether defined, implied or not referenced in the bid documents or contract documents.

2. Significance and Use

- 2.1 The Painting Contractor, Owner, General Contractor and specifying entity are affected by the extent to which painter's caulk is applied, to what surfaces it is applied, and to what extent it is applied when not specifically referenced in the painting specifications or in the absence of a written specification.
- 2.2 The extent of caulking, the suitability of the caulking material and the performance of the applicator all have an effect on the appearance and performance of the surfaces to which the caulk is applied.
- 2.3 The type and quality of the caulking material, the extent of its use and the substrates to which it is applied have an effect on the Painting Contractor performing its work, both from a material and labor perspective.

3. Definitions and Trade Terms

- 3.1 Definitions and Trade Terms see P9.

4. Reference Documents and Standards

- 4.1 Reference Documents and Standards see P9.

5. Standard Specification

- 5.1 The application of painter's caulk shall be as directed in the contract documents, typically found in Division 9, Painting, or in the absence of direction or delineation, the following shall be assumed within the scope of work:

- 5.1.1 The caulking material is limited to paintable acrylic/latex or urethane-modified caulk.
 - 5.1.2 The joints to be caulked shall only be between field painted surfaces.
 - 5.1.3 The joints to be caulked are limited to joint voids of 1/8 inch or less.
 - 5.1.4 The joints to be caulked are limited to those between wood or wood composite materials, and between wood or wood composite materials and painted wall or ceiling substrates such as gypsum drywall, plaster, or similar surfaces; in certain geographic areas, caulking of painted hollow metal members to painted wall surfaces is also included.
 - 5.1.5 Painter's caulk is to be applied to enhance the aesthetic appearance of the affected surfaces. It is not the responsibility of the applicator of painter's caulk to waterproof a surface, joint or void, nor is it the responsibility of the applicator of painter's caulk to conceal, eliminate, minimize, or disguise shrinkage or movement of joints or voids.
- 5.2 The following is not considered painter's caulk unless specifically directed or delineated otherwise, in the plans or contract documents:
- 5.2.1 Architectural caulking.
 - 5.2.2 Caulk and sealant application included in Division 7, Caulking and Sealing.
 - 5.2.3 Caulking, sealing or repair of crumbling or spalling masonry or plaster surfaces.
 - 5.2.4 All caulk and sealant applications on exterior surfaces, whether for aesthetic purposes or for waterproofing a building envelope.
 - 5.2.5 Application or insertion of backer rod in any joint, crack or void.
 - 5.2.6 Items, trims or objects installed in new construction prior to the application of gypsum drywall, plaster or other wall or ceiling surfaces.

6. Comments

- 6.1 This Standard is intended to clarify the application or placement of painter's caulk when not specifically directed in the bid documents and contract documents or in the absence of a written painting specification.
- 6.2 This Standard is intended to establish a guide for inclusion or exclusion of painter's caulk in the preparation of a bid or quotation.



- 6.3 This Standard clarifies areas of responsibility. Improved communication reduces misunderstandings.
- 6.4 This Standard is a nationally recognized consensus document for the painting and coating industry's work practices.

7. Disclaimer of Liability

- 7.1 PCA does not warrant or assume any legal liability or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any of the information contained herein.