AIRLESS SPRAY PAINTING SUGGESTIONS AND TECHNIQUE

A good airless spray application is the result of many factors. Surface preparation, which includes cleaning and degreasing, priming, material compatibility, quality finish product and correct application technique, are all important to the finished results.

The key to all good applications is a good spray gun technique. The finished results are what the client will look at and base his opinion on. Your skill and abilities are as important as good equipment and good paint. Proper application techniques can easily be learned by using the following simple guidelines. If you are not familiar with the basic spray techniques we recommend that you study this portion of the manual and practice the techniques shown. Practice your technique on scrap cardboard or old newspaper until you feel confident.

FOR EXCELLENT RESULTS, READ AND PRACTICE THESE TECHNIQUES

- Always strain all paint through a H.E.R.O. strainer bag.
 The most common reason for airless sprayers to malfunction is foreign matter jamming the valves or plugging the tip. Always strain the paint before putting through the pump.
- 2. Always spray at the lowest pressure setting which will provide a uniform spray fan. (fig. 1, page 10) Adjust pressure control knob so that paint is completely atomized. Insufficient pressure will result in "tailing". Too much pressure will result in excess fog and over spray, excess tip wear, and increased sprayer wear and tear. See setting up to spray, page 5.
- Always spray at right angles to the surface being sprayed. (fig. 2, page 10)
 Angling or arcing the nozzle toward the surface will cause uneven coverage and excessive overspray.
- Always hold spray gun 12-15 inches from spray surface. (fig. 3, page 10)
 Too close and the fan width will be reduced and material will be applied too heavily (runs).
 Too far from the surface and you will have excessive overspray and light coverage (transparent).
- 5. Always move the gun parallel to the surface being sprayed, at a consistent speed. This avoids uneven coverage (thick or thin areas).
- 6. Always start the spray stroke before triggering the gun and release the trigger before completing the stroke. (fig. 4, page 10)
 - This avoids heavy build up of paint at either end of the spray stroke.
- 7. Always lap your spray pattern by one half. (fig. 5, page 10) This assures full coverage of the surface being painted.

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ALWAYS

- ☑ ALWAYS follow H.E.R.O. recommendations for operation and safety completely.
- ALWAYS ensure that switch is in off position before plugging in the electric motor.
- ALWAYS set trigger lock on gun in "LOCKED" position when not in use, with gun locked close.
- ☑ ALWAYS check connections and fittings for tightness before operating the unit.
- ALWAYS locate the unit in a well ventilated area a minimum of 25 feet from the spray area.
- ALWAYS ground the unit, the paint containers, and the object being sprayed to eliminate static discharge. Ensure that all these objects remain grounded throughout the entire spraying operation.
- ALWAYS use approved 3 prong grounded extension cord and approved grounded outlets of the voltage and frequency specified on the motor. The outlet must be at least 25 feet from the spraying area.
- ALWAYS use approved 3 prong grounded extension cord not less than # 14/3 gauge up to 50 feet, and not less than # 12/3 gauge up to 100 feet, **DO NOT** exceed 100 feet of extension cord.
- ALWAYS use accessories and components approved for at least 3000 psi (working pressure) in the spraying system.
- ALWAYS use accessories and components supplied by H.E.R.O. Industries Ltd., or specifically approved in writing by H.E.R.O. Industries Ltd. on with the unit.
- ALWAYS examine accessories for wear or damage before operating the unit.
- ALWAYS use lowest possible pressure when flushing and cleaning the unit, and hold the gun firmly against a metal container to reduce static discharge possibility.
- ALWAYS wear a face filter mask when operating the unit.
- ☑ ALWAYS:
 - 1. Turn off the motor.
 - 2. Disconnect the power cord from the outlet.
 - 3. Relieve all pressure in the pump by triggering the gun.
 - 4. Lock gun trigger in "LOCKED" position, with gun locked closed before attempting to perform any maintenance or service on any part of the unit spray system.
- ✓ ALWAYS wear safety glasses when operating the unit.
- ALWAYS ensure fire extinguishing equipment is readily available and properly maintained in the spray area.
- ALWAYS observe good housekeeping and keep the spray area free from obstructions.
- ALWAYS be aware that certain chemicals may react with aluminum, carbide, or other components in the pump system. Read the manufacturer's label on all materials to be sprayed, and follow the manufacturer's recommendations. If in doubt, consult your material supplier to be sure.

FLUSHING THE UNIT AT SHUTDOWN OR COLOR CHANGE

If shutting down for a short period of time, it is sufficient to trigger the gun to relieve pressure. Then set the safety lock on gun to "locked" position with the gun locked closed and immerse the gun in a container of the correct thinner for the paint you are spraying. If stopping for the day or to change colors, use instructions to follow.

- 1. Remove spray tip from gun.
- Turn pressure control knob counter clockwise to low pressure setting. Only
 use sufficient pressure to allow material to move through the sprayer. DO
 NOT operate at or near full pressure.
- 3. Remove siphon assembly from paint container.
- 4. Trigger gun, back into paint container, until unit runs dry. NOTE: Pump and spray hose will continue to contain paint. This paint may be recovered by placing prime hose into paint container and draining the remainder while re-priming with cleaning fluid. See step 5* and 6*.
- 5. Place siphon assembly in container of correct thinner, for the spray product being used,, and prime the pump as shown in step 13, of "Spraying". *See special notes from step 4. Allow thinner to circulate back into the container for a few minutes to flush the prime valve.
- Close prime valve.
- Trigger gun into paint container until thinner comes through. *See special
 notes from step 4. Re-direct flow into waste container and continue spraying
 until thinner runs clear. Heavily soiled thinners may have to be changed to
 complete cleaning job.
- 8. Lift siphon assembly and allow pump to run dry.
- Repeat procedure using a gallon of H.E.R.O. Equipment Wonder Wash solution. If not using Wonder Wash, unit must not be stored with water. Only store with a non corrosive material (Paint thinner, solvent).
- 10. Switch unit "off" and trigger gun to relieve remaining pressure.
- 11. Remove and rinse gun handle filter in correct thinner.

SPECIAL STORAGE INSTRUCTIONS

In areas where the sprayer is **NOT** used 12 months of the year, special preparations must be used for winter or off season storage. Because solvents evaporate quickly, they should not be used for long term storage. A petroleum based solution (solvent and oil) should be used as an extended storage material. **DO NOT** allow storage solution to freeze in the sprayer.

H.E.R.O. Equipment Wonder Wash, available from your H.E.R.O. distributor, will provide the added cleaning benefits of solvent at a much lower cost. Suitable as a short term (1-2 days) storage solution only







