



DuPont Refinish Training Center  
500 Eagleview Blvd.  
Exton, PA 19341

April 11, 2011

Mr. Aaron Schulenburg  
Executive Director  
Society of Collision Repair Specialists  
PO Box 346  
Smyrna, DE. 19977

Aaron:

This letter is in response to your organizations request for DuPont Performance Coatings recommended procedures for blending and tinting of color during the refinishing process.

In collision repair, the practice of blending color is an industry standard. Blending is recognized and recommended as the most productive and efficient method to achieve a commercially acceptable color match. The decision to blend lies with the paint technician and the decision process is dependent upon the technician's evaluation of a number of critical factors.

- ✚ Size of the repair
- ✚ Size of the finished body work
- ✚ Type of damage – repair vs. replace
- ✚ OEM Color – solid colors vs. metallic colors – 3 stage colors
- ✚ Condition of the OEM color at the time of repair
- ✚ Styling lines of the vehicle and the plane of the adjacent panel
- ✚ Productivity – tinting to achieve a panel match vs. blending

Tinting a color is not the primary recommendation when preparing to refinish a vehicle. Tinting involves a series of color adjustments and the spraying of test panels to determine color accuracy. Tinting a color is an accepted practice when the available color formulas or alternates are not representative of the car being repaired.

Blending and tinting are most often mutually exclusive, but under certain conditions can be mutually inclusive especially when the color variance is so great that tinting in combination with blending, in the judgment of the paint technician, is the most efficient and productive procedure for insuring a quality color match and repair. When a color is tinted, blending is always recommended to produce an acceptable color match.

The paint technician must always use good judgment when establishing a strategy for the repair/refinish. DuPont Performance Coatings does recommend blending as the most productive and efficient procedure to achieve an acceptable color match and a quality repair. Under certain circumstances and conditions noted above, tinting in conjunction



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with blending is an accepted and recommended practice when, in the paint technician's judgment, it is the most efficient and effective procedure to deliver a quality repair.

Aaron, thank you for your request and for your support of the collision repair industry. Please call me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

James B Evans  
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