



# Pettit Technical Bulletin

## Pontoon Boat Antifouling

Pettit Paint offers three systems for applying antifouling paint to aluminum hulled vessels such as pontoon boats. System I is a basic four-step system described below that combines ease of application with a high level of protection from fouling and salt water environments, making it our most popular system. This process is designed for application to bare aluminum only. Following each step closely will lead to successful application. For the highest level of antifouling and corrosion protection follow the directions for System II *Advanced System for Higher Corrosion Protection*. For hulls previously damaged by electrolysis and/or corrosion refer to System III *Advanced System for Hulls Damaged By Electrolysis/Corrosion*. Always read and follow all product label directions. Detailed Product Data Sheets are available for each product at [pettitpaint.com](http://pettitpaint.com)

### Systems

#### I. Basic System

#### II. Advanced System for Higher Corrosion Protection

#### III. Advanced System for Hulls Damaged By Electrolysis/Corrosion

### I. Basic System

#### Wax Removal

Many pontoon boat manufacturers apply a wax coating to the pontoons before they leave the factory in order to better preserve the aluminum finish. This wax must be removed prior to painting. Use D-95 Dewaxer using a wet/dry method to remove this wax. Apply D-95 Dewaxer to a small area using a wetted rag. Wipe to remove D-95 with a clean dry cloth. Continually change cloths in order to reduce contamination. A typical 20' to 26' pontoon boat will require at least 12-15 rags to properly remove wax.

#### 6455/044 Metal Primer Kit

A typical 20' to 24' pontoon boat will require about one 6455/044 Metal Primer quart size kit. In a separate container, mix together 6455 Metal Primer with included packet of 044 Reactor. HELPFUL TIP - For roller application thin 10 to 15% with denatured alcohol, this will make application easier. Add 20 to 25% denatured alcohol for spray application. Once completely mixed, apply primer to boat in ONE VERY THIN COAT. A 1/8" roller works well for this application. These rollers can be found in mohair type (usually called "adhesive applicators") or solvent resistant foam type. Let product dry 2 hours at 65 degrees or higher, or 4 hours at 50 to 65 degrees. Do not apply under 50 degrees as crystallizing of the product can result. Note that the aluminum substrate should be at least 50 degrees as well. When checking the temperature of the aluminum substrate, always check the inside of the pontoons as this will be the coldest.

#### 6627 Tie-Coat Primer

Mix 6627 Tie-Coat Primer well and apply one coat using a 1/4" or 3/8" nap roller. Additional coats may be applied to offer additional hull protection but are not necessary for good adhesion. If applying Vivid antifouling paint, two coats of 6627 Tie-Coat Primer are recommended. Follow overcoat times listed on the product label or technical data sheet. Please note that you may skip the Tie-Coat Primer step when using Ultima Eco, Vivid Free or Alumacoat SR, however, you will significantly reduce the hull protection offered by this system.

#### Antifouling Paint

Apply two coats of either Ultima Eco, Alumacoat SR, Vivid Free or Vivid antifouling paint following directions and dry times listed on the product label. When using Vivid antifouling, two coats of 6627 Tie-Coat Primer are recommended. Remember not to paint areas directly under where zincs will be installed to assure proper contact with the hull.



# Pettit Technical Bulletin

## Pontoon Boat Antifouling

### II. Advanced System for Higher Corrosion Protection

#### Paint and/or Wax Removal

If the hull has not been painted, use D-95 Dewaxer using a wet/dry method to remove any waxes and/or contaminants. Apply D-95 Dewaxer to a small area using a wetted rag. Wipe to remove D-95 with a clean dry cloth. Continually change cloths in order to reduce contamination. A typical 20' to 26' pontoon boat will require at least 12-15 rags to properly remove all waxes and contaminants. Sandblast, grind, or heavily sand the hull to create an adequate profile for the epoxy in the next step to attach. If the hull has been painted, sandblast or grind off current antifouling paint and primers and wipe down hull with Pettit #120 Brushing Thinner. Be sure there is an adequate profile for the epoxy in the next step to attach.

#### Aluma-Protect Aluminum Epoxy Primer 4400/4401

Stir both components thoroughly. Mix the two components together in the ratio of 1 part of Component A to 1 part of Component B by volume. Allow to stand 15 minutes at approximately 70° before using. (Allow to stand at least 30 minutes if temperature is between 50° and 65°F) May be applied by brush, roller, conventional or airless spray. Thinning is not normally required for application, however, small amounts of 97 Epoxy Thinner may be used if necessary to facilitate application. Wet film thickness should be 3.6 mils per coat, which yields 1.0 mil dry film thickness. A wet film thickness gauge should be used to monitor paint application. Apply one coat of Aluma-Protect Aluminum Epoxy Primer 4400/4401. At 70°F let dry 4 hours minimum, 96 hours maximum, and apply an additional coat followed by two coats of Pettit Protect High Build Epoxy Primer 4700/4701 following application and recoat instructions.

#### Pettit-Protect High-Build Epoxy Primer 4700/4701

Mix both components of the Pettit Protect 4700/4701 Gray or 4100/4101 White High Build Epoxy Primer thoroughly. Then mix the two components together in the ratio of 3 parts of Component A to 1 part of Component B by volume. Allow to stand 15 minutes at approximately 70° before using. (Allow to stand at least 30 minutes if temperature is between 50° and 65°F). Do not mix more material than can be used within the specified pot life shown. Apply two coats of Pettit Protect 4700/4701 High Build Epoxy Primer. Wet film thickness should be 7 mils per coat, which yields 4 mils dry film thickness. Avoid applying more than 10 wet mils per coat as this may result in solvent entrapment. A wet film thickness gauge should be used to monitor paint application.

#### Antifouling Paint

Apply two coats of either Ultima Eco, Alumacoat SR, Vivid Free, or Vivid antifouling paint following directions and dry times listed on the product label. Remember not to paint areas directly under where zincs will be installed to assure proper contact with the hull.

### III. Advanced System for Hulls Damaged By Electrolysis/Corrosion

#### Paint Removal

Sandblast or grind off current antifouling paint and primers paying particular attention to cleaning up the pitted areas. Raise the waterline if necessary to cover unpainted areas where pitting has occurred include areas such as inside the motor well. If pin-holes have formed in the pontoons and/or welds, use Splash-Zone A-788 two-part epoxy repair compound to make the necessary repairs. Sand all repair areas smooth by grinding or using 36 or 60 grit sandpaper prior to proceeding. Do not apply 6455/044 Metal Primer to areas repaired using Splash-Zone A-788 two-part epoxy repair compound.



# Pettit Technical Bulletin

## Pontoon Boat Antifouling

### 6455/044 Metal Primer Kit

A typical 20' to 24' pontoon boat will require about one 6455/044 Metal Primer quart size kit. In a separate container, mix together 6455 Metal Primer with included small bottle of 044 Reactor. HELPFUL TIP - For roller application thin 10 to 15% with denatured alcohol. Add 20 to 25% denatured alcohol for spray application, this will make application easier. Once completely mixed, apply primer to boat in ONE VERY THIN COAT. A 1/8" roller works well for this application. These rollers can be found in mohair type (usually called "adhesive applicators") or solvent resistant foam type. Allow an overnight dry before proceeding to next step. Do not apply under 50 degrees as crystallizing of the product can result. Note that the aluminum substrate should be at least 50 degrees as well. When checking the temperature of the aluminum substrate, always check the inside of the pontoons as this will be the coldest.

### Aluma-Protect Aluminum Epoxy Primer 4400/4401

Stir both components thoroughly. Mix the two components together in the ratio of 1 part of Component A to 1 part of Component B by volume. Allow to stand 15 minutes at approximately 70° before using. (Allow to stand at least 30 minutes if temperature is between 50° and 65°F) May be applied by brush, roller, conventional or airless spray. Thinning is not normally required for application, however, small amounts of 97 Epoxy Thinner may be used if necessary to facilitate application. Wet film thickness should be 3.6 mils per coat, which yields 1.0 mil dry film thickness. A wet film thickness gauge should be used to monitor paint application. Apply one coat of Aluma-Protect Aluminum Epoxy Primer 4400/4401. At 70°F let dry 4 hours minimum, 96 hours maximum, and apply an additional coat followed by two coats of Pettit Protect High Build Epoxy Primer 4700/4701 following application and recoat instructions.

### Pettit-Protect High-Build Epoxy Primer 4700/4701

Mix both components of the Pettit Protect 4700/4701 Gray or 4100/4101 White High Build Epoxy Primer thoroughly. Then mix the two components together in the ratio of 3 parts of Component A to 1 part of Component B by volume. Allow to stand 15 minutes at approximately 70° before using. (Allow to stand at least 30 minutes if temperature is between 50° and 65°F). Do not mix more material than can be used within the specified pot life shown. Apply two coats of Pettit Protect 4700/4701 High Build Epoxy Primer. Wet film thickness should be 7 mils per coat, which yields 4 mils dry film thickness. Avoid applying more than 10 wet mils per coat as this may result in solvent entrapment. A wet film thickness gauge should be used to monitor paint application.

### Antifouling Paint

Apply two coats of either Ultima Eco, Alumacoat SR, Vivid Free or Vivid antifouling paint following directions and dry times listed on the product label. Remember not to paint areas directly under where zincs will be installed to assure proper contact with the hull.

**Always read and follow all product label directions. Detailed Product Data Sheets are available for each product at [pettitpaint.com](http://pettitpaint.com)**