



# Pettit Technical Bulletin

## Bottom Paint Compatibility Chart

Determining whether an antifouling paint is compatible and can be applied over an existing paint can be tricky. Different paint systems require different levels of surface prep in order to obtain proper adhesion. There is an old rule of thumb that says an ablative paint can go over a hard modified epoxy paint, but a hard modified epoxy paint should never be applied over an ablative. While this holds true most of the time, there are some exceptions.

Most compatibility problems that occur with over coating paints are caused by the solvents. Some of the stronger solvents used in antifouling paints can temporarily soften and saturate the previous paint layer. When the solvents leave the paint “mud cracks” have a tendency to form when the paint dries out.

One practically fool-proof solution to this problem is simply to use one of Pettit’s Hydrocoat products. Because Hydrocoat technology uses water instead of solvents to disperse the paint, there is very little chance that it will have an adverse reaction with the previous paint. The chart below shows that with proper surface preparation all Hydrocoat products can be apply over almost all previous bottom paints except for VC 17, VC 18, SR21, FW21, or the soft sloughing paints generally used as commercial coatings.

Another method is to apply one coat of Pettit Tie-Coat primer over the previous surface prior to applying the new paint. The Tie-Coat separates the two paints, therefore removing any chance of incompatibility.

This chart shows many of today’s paints and application method necessary to overcoat with Pettit paints.

	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <b>Old Antifouling</b> </div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <b>New Antifouling</b> </div>			
	Bottom Pro Gold! BottomShield Epoxycop Fiberglass Bottomkote Trinidad Trinidad 75 Trinidad Pro Trinidad SR Ultra Ultra-Kote Unepoxy Unepoxy Plus	Alumacoat SR Awlstar Epoxycop Ablative Horizons Micron CSC Micron Extra PCA Gold! Ultima SR Ultima SR-40 Ultima SR-60 Vivid Vivid Free	Bottomkote Bottomkote ACT Bottomkote NT Bottomkote Pro CPP Plus Premium SSA Red Hand Sea Mate Tarr & Wonson Ultima SSA		FW 21 SR-21 VC 17 VC17M VC 18
<b>Trinidad</b> <b>Trinidad SR</b> <b>Trinidad 75</b> <b>Trinidad Pro</b> <b>Unepoxy</b> <b>Unepoxy Plus</b> <b>Copper Bronze</b> <b>The Protector</b> <b>Vivid</b>	Sand and Apply	Heavy Sand and Apply	Remove		Remove
<b>Alumacoat SR</b> <b>Horizons</b> <b>Ultima SR-40</b> <b>Ultima SR-60</b> <b>Vivid Free</b>	Sand and Apply	Light Sand and Apply	Remove		Remove
<b>Ultima SSA</b> <b>Sea Mate</b>	Sand and Apply	Light Sand and Apply	Light Sand and Apply		Remove
<b>Hydrocoat</b> <b>Hydrocoat SR</b> <b>Ultima Eco</b>	Sand and Apply	Sand and Apply	Sand and Apply		Remove
<b>SR-21</b>	Sand and Apply	Remove	Remove		Light Sand and Apply