



# Blending process for tri-coat colors: R-M<sup>®</sup> develops a simplified repair process

In response to the trend for customization of vehicles, automobile manufacturers are enriching their color palettes and developing what are known as high chroma colors. Originally formulated in the tri-coat system using a basecoat and a colored clearcoat, these colors require particular skills and are making repairs increasingly complex for body shops. For both easier implementation and guaranteed high-quality repairs, R-M is sharing its color-matching expertise by developing a specific procedure that simplifies the steps while guaranteeing perfect color reproduction.

## R-M's technical expertise improves productivity

Focused on the technical and economic success of its customers, R-M relies on its color-matching skills to tailor its repair processes to vehicle fleet advances and the requirements of body shops. Repairs on vehicles with tri-coat (high chroma) colors are now becoming more and more frequent. The advantage of these technologies is that they can be used to produce totally new colors, although they do make color matching more complex. With this in mind, the challenge for the body shop is to maintain the quality of its repairs without compromising the productivity and profitability of its workshop operations.

It was on this premise that R-M, BASF's Automotive Refinish premium brand, developed a wet-on-wet blending technique tailored to the specific characteristics of tri-coat colors. By reducing the complete color-blending process to three steps, it is now possible to work on small areas and even to perform a wet blend on a single part.

This type of repair, which until now had rarely been seen as an option, is now possible. It makes the work simpler; fewer steps are involved; and there is less risk of a color discrepancy during implementation. These are three advantages that bodywork painters should exploit in order to overcome the associated technical challenges. No other products are required in order to achieve perfect results. This new process can be used for all colors of this type and, by extension, for the entire existing color palette.

*The system guarantees optimal color reproduction and high-quality results on small areas while also optimizing repair times. But this single procedure requires special technical know-how; hence why training modules specifically for repairs on high chroma colors were created,"* says Thierry Leclerc, R-M's Technical Manager for Western Europe.

## R-M Automotive Refinish: an important part of BASF's Coatings division

Under the R-M brand, BASF markets a comprehensive range of paint systems for vehicle refinishing. Special focus is given to ecologically efficient water-based paints and high-solid paints. By using these systems all legal solvent-reduction requirements can be complied with, anywhere in the world, and with regard to appearance and resistance, the products meet the same quality standards as solvent-borne paints. In this area, the company offers a wide variety of services to support its customers. R-M Automotive Refinish Paints is approved by most of the leading car manufacturers for aftermarket repair and chosen by the world's most prestigious car companies for its color expertise.

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