

Painting K-Flex Elastomeric Insulation

Some applications may require that K-Flex flexible closed cell elastomeric insulation be painted for aesthetic or labeling / identification purposes. Painting of insulation installed indoors will not cause any premature degradation of the insulation, nor will it negatively affect the performance of the product. K-Flex recommends that a water-based acrylic latex paint be used, and as a best practice we recommend that the paint be initially tested for adhesion on a small portion of the insulation.

If the insulation is installed in an area that is prone to large temperature variations, due to either ambient temperature swings or process temperatures, then the elasticity of the paint must also be considered. Under these conditions, if the elasticity of the paint is less than that of the insulation, cracking of the paint may occur over time.

In all cases, the insulation surface should be free of dirt, grease, oils and adhesives before painting. For *outdoor* applications, paint should be limited to light colors (white, off-white, beige, light gray, etc.), especially on cold piping systems such as refrigerant lines or chilled water.