



sikkens
WOOD COATINGS

Passion for wood

Maintenance of dip tanks and flow installations

A dip tank is not a safe and a flow installation is not a pot of gold, but they still hold a significant value – the value of the coating material

It thus makes sense to observe the following tips and advice

- 1. Filling**

When you add thinner and material, the temperature difference between tank contents and the new material must be no greater than 5 ° C. Solvents or water for thinning at a temperature below 10 ° C. must be stored at the correct temperature, or temperature matched with the tank temperature.
- 2. Cleaning**

Filters for dip and flow systems must be checked for functionality before starting work. Screens are used for screening coarse contaminants and to protect the pump. They must be cleaned once a week.
- 3. Viscosity**

The viscosity is determined by measuring with a DIN4 or ISO3 cup. Measurements in the dip tank are performed once per workday, and several times a day for flow installations. For viscosity data, see the table "Viscosity of dip and flow products."
The viscosity is regulated by adding a thinner or water.
Please only use solvents as per the manufacturer's instructions.
- 4. Checks**

Flocculates can be very easily detected by holding a regular sheet of copy paper in the dip tank and allow the material to drain off. The coloration of the paper must be largely uniform; i.e., no dots = pigment concentrations should be visible.
A dip tank must be checked every two weeks for sludge and sediment; as an option, sieve the material.
Dip tank and flow installations must be emptied at least 2x a year, thoroughly cleaned, and disinfected before refilling.
- 5. Defoaming**

Especially with flow installations, foam can develop in the system due to circulating the coating material. The foam impairs the viscosity and thus the drip pattern. Adding a defoamer helps to reduce foaming.
For good incorporation and distribution of the defoamer it is recommended to pre-mix it with some of the flow material and add this mixture in small quantities to the system.