



## ASFP Technical Area

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**Subject:** Jack Tsuei - Topcoat Requirements

**Message:** It is very difficult to give a strictly definitive answer to your question. Generally speaking, we would suggest it is not a good idea to use two component PU or Epoxy as a top coat - but this will be entirely dependent upon the relevant manufacturers' recommendations and fire test evidence. Such top coats could "eat" into the intumescent base coat or soften it. This action would be more relevant to water based intumescent coatings than to solvent based. The use of such "hard" topcoats could also have a retardant affect on the reaction of the intumescent coating and we understand various manufacturers have conducted fire tests, which have resulted in a very mixed fire performance. You should ensure that the manufacturer provides a FULL copy of a relevant fire test report before using two part component PU or Epoxy. Also check the compatibility between the intumescent base coat and the two component topcoat.