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SPECIAL SECTION

How the industry is supporting pros



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The ins and outs of epoxy floors

PRO PICKS

Four pros share their interior coating preferences

Interiors aren't always as straightforward as exterior jobs. With them, you're more likely to find a wider range of surface types and customer demands. A flat-looking sheen that's easy to wipe down, painting a solid color over a tired wood-stained surface, doors made of wood, metal or fiberglass—the scenarios are endless. Some pros may feel they need an arsenal of coatings for interiors. Today's pro also faces product availability issues, so some demand more utility from one product but also have a few different options handy in case their workhorse isn't in stock. With all these dynamics in mind, we recently tapped four pros from different areas of the country to share their interior coating preferences.

BY BRIAN SODOMA

1 HEWERSON MORAIS

The senior commercial estimator for this New York CertaPro Painters franchise sees a wide range of project types, including multifamily, retail, hospitality and short- and long-term health care facilities, as well as public and private schools.

He relies on Benjamin Moore and Sherwin-Williams as his primary suppliers. For drywall surfaces where customers balance quality and budget, he often specifies **Benjamin Moore Ultra Spec 500 Paint**. For more scuff resistance or in high-traffic spaces, he turns to **Benjamin Moore Ultra Spec SCUFF-X Interior Latex Paint**. In these situations, he also trusts **Sherwin-Williams ProMar 200 Zero VOC Interior Latex Paint** and their **Pro Industrial Pre-Catalyzed Water Based Epoxy** as great alternatives for similar applications.

"Most products essentially cross over between these brands, which are both excellent," he said. "It usually comes down to which particular brand the customer trusts and is most comfortable with, then it's up to us to select the right product for the specific application."

On doors and trim in high-traffic areas, **Benjamin Moore Corotech COMMAND Enamel** offers excellent abrasion resistance, he said. If that abrasion resistance isn't really necessary, he'll opt for something like **Benjamin Moore ADVANCE Interior Paint**. "ADVANCE offers nice leveling and a smoother finish but it's not as resistant as COMMAND," he added.

When dealing with ferrous metals, if strong rust-inhibitive properties are needed, after priming, he finishes with two topcoats of **Sherwin-Williams Pro Industrial DTM Acrylic Coating**. His teams also work on basements with water intrusion problems. For those jobs, painting CMU or foundation concrete, Morais turns to **Sherwin-Williams LOXON XP Waterproofing Masonry Coating**. For other moisture-heavy environments such as indoor pools and school bathrooms, **Benjamin Moore AURA Bath & Spa Paint** offers excellent moisture and mold resistance, he said.



Courtesy of CertaPro Painters of Westchester, New York & Southern Connecticut