

# FAQ's – ON GUARD™ Acid Detecting Paint

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## **Q. What does ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint do, and how does it work?**

A. **ON GUARD™** instantly turns from GOLDEN YELLOW to BRILLIANT RED when exposed to any acid or acid gas pH 3 or below. **ON GUARD™** is ideal for use in conjunction with chlorine, quickly undergoing color change when a chlorine leak occurs. **ON GUARD™** VISUALLY identifies DANGEROUS leaks or spills.

## **Q. What is different and unique about patented ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint?**

A. **ON GUARD™** reverses its color and turns back to GOLDEN YELLOW when the acid leak has been isolated, repaired, and the surface is neutralized and rinsed. Rinsing alone will return the GOLDEN YELLOW color, but it may take some time. We strongly recommend using **RTY™ Neutralizer** to expedite the color reversal. Once the GOLDEN YELLOW returns, the repair can be verified, and **ON GUARD** is ready to detect another leak.

## **Q. What can you tell me about turn around time and new installations?**

A. Coating possible leak sites with **ON GUARD™** during a plant "turn around", or a new installation, is ideal. All components coated with **ON GUARD™** during the repair/replacement period become an invaluable aid at start-up time. Each industry, and each company and plant may have different SOP's at start-up time. Typically, after initial weld inspections and hydro-tests are completed, it is ideal to station plant personnel at sensitive areas when a product is first flowed. If there is an acid leak, the GOLDEN YELLOW paint will instantly turn BRILLIANT RED. The leak can then be isolated, repaired, neutralized, and rinsed. The process may then resume and **ON GUARD™** will help determine if the leak is repaired properly and warn you if there are any additional leaks. By utilizing **ON GUARD™**, it will not be necessary to check each and every potential leak site with an ammonia bottle. This is truly ideal for hard to access areas and inaccessible areas.

## **Q. Does ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint contain any heavy metals such as lead or chrome?**

A. NO! It is all organic – there are no metals in the formula.

## **Q. How and where is ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint used?**

A. Apply **ON GUARD™** as you would any other quality exterior paint product. Application can be accomplished using a quality brush, roller, air or airless spray gun. Apply to valves, flanges, pipes, tanks, weep holes, sample ports, pumps, secondary containment facilities or anywhere acid leaks or spills are a potential problem. It works for any acid pH 3 or below.

## **Q. Does ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint have to be stripped off and reapplied after each acid exposure?**

A. NO! Simply flush with a mild alkali solution or **RTY™ Neutralizer** and rinse with water and **ON GUARD™** is ready to reveal the next spill or leak. It rarely needs repainted.

## **Q. Who is using ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint and where is it used?**

A. Many alkylation refineries, chlorine facilities, manufacturers and transporters of acids, and other "corrosive" industries are using **ON GUARD™**. Those responsible for employee safety and health, environmental protection, and product integrity are using **ON GUARD™**.

## **Q. Does a primer coat need to be applied?**

A. Always use a quality grade primer when applying over raw metal. The surfaces need to be clean, dry, oil and rust free. We carry a specially formulated primer, **ON GUARD™ WHITE PRIMER #315**, and strongly recommend its use.

## **Q. Can ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint be applied over existing paint?**

A. **ON GUARD™** can be applied over existing paint as long as the sub coat is of high quality and the surface is clean, dry, rust and oil free.

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**Q. How does ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint work in the presence of chlorine?**

A. Chlorine has a high affinity for water. Therefore, when there is a chlorine leak, the chlorine binds with the water vapor in the air and forms hydrochloric acid. A surface that has been painted with **ON GUARD™** will turn from golden yellow to brilliant red in the presence of hydrochloric acid pH 3 or lower.

**Q. Is ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint helpful if there is an acid sensing system in the area?**

A. YES! If a sensor is triggered, check the area for a revealing "RED" leak site. Saves time, speeds repair and improves employee safety by identifying the leak from a distance. **ON GUARD™** may actually reveal a leak before electronic "sniffers" when there is a very low volume leak.

**Q. What happens to a leaking red flange in a rain storm?**

A. If a coated flange has leaked and a color change to red has occurred, some of the red color could be temporarily changed back to yellow during a heavy downpour of rain. But, since the acid leak has not been repaired, the red color will quickly return as the rain slows down or stops. Small amounts of water, such as mist or dew actually speed up the color change to red at a leak site. The paint can be changed from red to yellow and back a number of times without losing sensitivity.

**Q. Once applied, how long does ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint last?**

A. **ON GUARD™** should last a minimum of two years "outside" or better than two and one half years if used "inside". Under exceptionally harsh conditions, such as temperatures above 200°F (93°C), visual checks should be made at 6-12 months. If **ON GUARD™** begins turning light brown, or loses sensitivity, repainting will be necessary.

**Q. What is the shelf life and storage temperature of ON GUARD™ acid detecting paint?**

A. The shelf life of **ON GUARD™** is one year in the factory-sealed can at the recommended storage temperature. The recommended storage temperature is 20°F (-7°C) minimum, and 110°F (43°C) maximum.

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