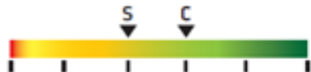






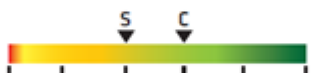
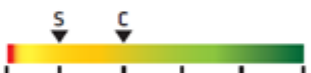


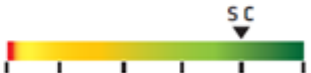





# Technical Bulletin No. 049

## LP® SmartSide® – Flat, Satin or Semi-Gloss Paint?

LP SmartSide Trim and Siding products are available with either a cedar texture or smooth finish. Cedar texture products camouflage paint variations better than smooth finish, therefore a greater understanding of paint characteristics is required when finishing smooth finish products. The following guide is intended to help choose between flat, satin, and semi-gloss paints based on your project needs and preferences.

FLAT/MATTE <sup>1</sup> NO TO LOW SHEEN	SATIN/EGGSHELL <sup>1</sup> MODERATE SHEEN	SEMI-GLOSS <sup>1,3</sup> HIGH SHEEN
WEATHERABILITY / SERVICE LIFE		
		
WASHABILITY		
		
SHEEN UNIFORMITY <sup>4</sup>		
		
MAINTAINS COLOR <sup>2</sup>		
		
EASE OF TOUCHUP		
		
S = SMOOTH FINISH C = CEDAR TEXTURE		

<sup>1</sup>Scales read left to right, red being the lowest level of performance and green being the highest level of performance.

<sup>2</sup>Color retention is highly dependent on paint selection/manufacturer and not dependent on the sidings substrate or texture. (i.e. use a high-quality 100% acrylic exterior paint, specially formulated for use on wood and engineered wood substrates)

<sup>3</sup>Characteristics of semi-gloss and gloss would be similar.

<sup>4</sup>Refer to Sheen Uniformity section of the document for additional information or read LP Technical Note #045.

- There are five performance characteristics to consider when selecting a paint sheen;
 

<b>1. Weatherability/Service Life</b>	(ability to maintain appearance)
<b>2. Washability</b>	(capable of being washed without damage)
<b>3. Sheen Uniformity</b>	(ability to reduce visible surface sheen variation)
<b>4. Maintains Color</b>	(paint color retention over time)
<b>5. Ease of Touchup</b>	(ability of paint to blend during touchup)
- Each performance category will offer a different level of appearance and maintenance for flat, satin or semi-gloss coatings/paint.
  - It is up to the siding end user to determine what performance features in Table 1 are most important when selecting the paint sheen.
  - Siding products with large surface areas such as panel siding require more understanding of the paint appearance and maintenance requirements when selecting a sheen.
  - Read options carefully to assure the paint sheen selected offers the desired level of appearance and maintenance.

### **SHEEN UNIFORMITY**

- LP SmartSide smooth finish siding products have a different surface texture than LP SmartSide cedar texture siding products. A smooth finish requires more diligence of moisture management during the painting process. Moisture conditions during storage and painting of the siding are more likely to affect paint sheen on smooth finish siding products than on cedar texture siding products.
- It is critical that substrate be dry before painting, **failing to do so will result in sheen variation.**
- Upon acceptance of delivery, **smooth finish siding product units should be stored inside**, any siding products with visible moisture should be dried prior to coating.
- Siding products should have a minimum surface temperature, as specified by the paint manufacturer, before painting.
  - Minimum surface temperature requirements are generally around 50°F, but can vary from paint manufacturer to paint manufacturer.
  - Refer to paint manufacturers application requirements for additional information.
  - The siding surface temperature must remain at or above the paint manufacturer's requirement throughout the curing/drying process.
- Siding products need an adequate time for paint<sup>2</sup> to cure.
  - Paint is cured when all the solvent (water) has left the solid paint layer, leaving only the coating on the siding substrate.
  - Exposing painted smooth finish siding products to moisture before the paint is cured, **will result in sheen variation.**
- Prior to packaging prefinished siding products, cool to 90°F or as specified by the paint manufacturer.
- Differences in the siding temperature and ambient air temperatures can produce condensation within a unit particularly during times of high relative humidity and especially if stored outside.
- Prefinished units must be packaged in a manner to eliminate liquid water or water vapor from entering and/or being trapped in units.