



# Pettit Technical Bulletin

## Performance Antifouling Spray and Burnishing Guide

Pettit's research lab has developed a new type of "Hybrid" antifouling paint. Vivid and Black Widow antifouling paints are in a category of their own combining the best attributes of both hard and ablative technologies. Vivid and Black Widow work by leaching out the biocides just as a traditional hard paint does, however, once the biocide is gone, the paint film will break down in water and "powder off" exposing a new layer of biocide. This self-polishing surface resists build-up while it can be burnished to a porcelain-like racing finish. Vivid and Black Widow antifouling paints truly offer the best of both worlds. Traditional hard racing finishes tend to have little or no antifouling capabilities, Vivid and Black Widow provide highly effective, dual-biocide, multi-season protection against aggressive fouling and slime.

### **Spray Specifications for Vivid or Black Widow**

#### **Air Assist/Airless Sprayer**

Airless sprayer ratio pump 30:1  
Use a .012 to .019 spray tip  
Thin product 5% using part number 121 Spraying Thinner  
Use 20 - 30 PSI for fan pressure when using airless

#### **Pressure Pot/Conventional Air Gun**

Pressure pot with 15 to 20 psi on pot  
Thin product 15% using part number 121 Spraying Thinner  
Use a .1.7 - 2.5 mm tip

### **Spray Application Directions**

1. Thoroughly clean and de-wax the hull using 92 Bio-Blue Hull Surface Prep
2. Sand to etch the surface with 80 - 100 grit paper (ensure 2 - 3 mil anchor profile is achieved)
3. Apply three THIN coats allowing product to cure between coats, apply a fourth coat if burnishing is planned.  
Coats MUST be sprayed on thin (4 mil max)

#### **Note:**

You will likely see a bleed in the first coat, this is normal and expected especially in lighter Vivid colors and white. The graphite in the previous surface will cause leaching that will appear streaky. This will affect the appearance of the first coat only and should not show on subsequent coats.

### **Roll and Brush Application Directions**

1. Thoroughly clean and de-wax the hull using 92 Bio-Blue Hull Surface Prep
2. Sand to etch the surface with 80 - 100 grit paper (ensure 2 - 3 mil anchor profile is achieved)
3. Thin Vivid or Black Widow 10% with 120 thinner
4. Apply using thin coats using a 1/8" to 3/16" smooth nap roller. Cover only enough area that can be tipped before the paint film dries. Tip the surface using a quality natural bristle paint brush in a fore and aft direction.

### **Burnishing for a Smooth Racing Finish**

1. Thoroughly clean and de-wax the hull using 92 Bio-Blue Hull Surface Prep
2. Sand to etch the surface with 80 - 100 grit paper (ensure 2 - 3 mil anchor profile is achieved)
3. Thin Vivid or Black Widow depending on preferred application method
4. Apply using roll and brush or spray application
5. Burnishing can be achieved by using a buffer at 1750 rpm's, a wool pad with water. When burnishing, it is wise to apply a fourth coat of Vivid or Black Widow.

#### **Note:**

Pettit Protect High Build Epoxy Primer can be used after sanding and dewaxing prior to Vivid or Black Widow application to promote adhesion and/or to serve as a barrier coat. Spraying Pettit Protect High Build Epoxy Primer instructions can be found in the Pettit Protect User Manual.

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