



## Vipond's Paints Pty Ltd

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### **FACT SHEET: Painting TautFlex on to Inflatable Boats**

Most inflatable water craft are made from flexible polyvinyl chloride (PVC) or chlorosulfonated polyethylene (known as CSPE and often referred to by its trade name – Hypalon®). Tautflex has unparalleled adhesion to vinyl based materials. Although we have had considerable success with most grades of CSPE, there are some types that have proved difficult to obtain adhesion to.

Our experience has shown that the red coloured CSPE material (typically used in the manufacture of surf life saving craft) is manufactured with a special UV resistant clear resin encapsulating the surface. We believe it is this resin that often proves difficult for Tautflex to adhere to.

Before proceeding, it is important that Tautflex is thoroughly tested for adhesion to the substrate. If adhesion is not satisfactory, do not proceed.

#### Adhesion Test

- Thoroughly clean and prepare a small area of the surface.
- Apply Tautflex and allow it to dry for at least 2 hours. Cut an X into the paint surface and apply masking tape. Rub the masking tape firmly to smooth out any bubbles, then pull it off in one quick action.
- If the paint peels away from the surface, then it fails the adhesion test and is not suitable.

Note: small samplers are available for sale in order to conduct an adhesion test.