



Technical Bulletin

Adjusting Metallic Basecoats with BC101

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Unlike solids, metallic colors are more difficult to tint because they tend to change color depending upon the angle at which they are viewed. Consequently, it is necessary that both the face and the pitch match the vehicle. Often, a repaired panel may match when viewed straight on, but from an angle, it may appear to be lighter/darker or cleaner/dirtier than the adjacent panel. When such a variation between the spray-out color and the vehicle exists, a subtle adjustment with BC101 may help.

BC101 is a flop controller. By adjusting the orientation of the metallic flakes in a color formula, it changes the way the light reflects off the panel, thereby affecting the appearance of face and the pitch of the color. BC101 will not have an effect on the color's cast (hue), but it will change the intensity (value) and the saturation (chroma) of a color. Use the following table to appropriately adjust color formulas that contain metallic pigments. Begin by adjusting the amount of BC101 by one gram and increase the amount as needed.

Increase amount of BC101 to:

Increase coarseness
Increase sparkle
Brighten face
Darken travel (between face and pitch)
Lighten pitch/flop

Decrease amount of BC101 to:

Decrease coarseness
Decrease sparkle
Darken face
Lighten travel (between face and pitch)
Darken pitch/flop

Note: Adding too much flop control will make the color milky and/or hazy. Do not use BC101 to tint solid colors unless it is called for in the formula.

For additional information on this or other R-M products or procedures, please contact BASF Refinish Customer Service at 1-800-825-3000 or visit our website at www.basfrefinish.com.

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