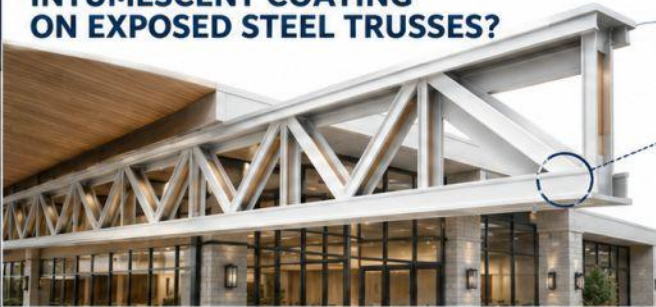


CAN YOU PAINT OVER INTUMESCENT COATING ON EXPOSED STEEL TRUSSES?



TYPICAL COATING BUILD-UP (ON STEEL MEMBER)



INTUMESCENT ACTION IN FIRE

BEFORE FIRE



DURING FIRE EXPOSURE



When exposed to heat, the intumescent coating swells many times its original thickness to insulate the steel and maintain structural integrity.



ACCEPTABLE



Topcoat permitted only if it is part of the **tested/listed system** or **specifically approved** by the intumescent manufacturer.



Apply only within approved **product type** and **dry-film thickness**.



Maintain **compliance** with approved fire-resistance design and inspection requirements.



NOT ACCEPTABLE



Do not apply generic decorative paint or site-selected finish **without evidence**.



Unapproved extra coating may **reduce fire performance** or invalidate the listed assembly.



AHJ / building official **may reject** if rating support is not provided.



CODE BASIS

- SBC 201-CR-2024 §703.2.1.4 – Supplemental features shall not reduce the fire-resistance rating unless supported by approved evidence.
- SBC 201-CR-2024 §1705.15 – Special inspection of mastic and intumescent fire-resistant coatings.
- NFPA 5000-2024 §8.2.1.1 – Fire resistance ratings based on approved tests/designs.
- NFPA 5000-2024 Annex A.8.2.1.1 – Intumescent fire-resistive materials should follow listed design and manufacturer installation instructions.



PRACTICAL CONCLUSION: You may paint over intumescent coating only when the **exact finish coat** is included in the **tested/listed system** or is **specifically approved in writing** by the manufacturer and **accepted by the AHJ**.