

# SkillsUSA ART National Championships

## -Spot Repair Segment-

Each competitor will be given a panel, approximately 30" tall and 20" wide. It will have a primer spot in one corner. For reference: our example panel, pictured on page 3, shows what the competitor starts with. The panel is in basecoat clearcoat. The goal is to properly prep the panel for a spot repair blend, apply a basecoat - with no color reaching the opposite corner of the panel where the competitor's numbered white sticker is adhered and finally clear the entire panel. There will be judges for Panel Preparation, Basecoat, and Clearcoat. Judges also mark scores for safety.

### PANEL PREPARATION

- Be sure competitor is wearing safety glasses, gloves, dust mask (provided) and covered completely with a paint suit. Don't give up easy points due to safety! Be sure competitor numbers are displayed on the back of the paint suit, decal numbers are provided. Also write competitor numbers on dust mask as it will be removed during painting and left on a table.
- Each competitor's panels will already be hanging on the sanding rack in the Spot Repair segment.
- The panel needs to be Cleaned with waterborne cleaner, provided at station
- Prepare the primer spot area on the panel, finish sanding with 600 grit.
- The surrounding edges on the panel can be scuffed with a gray scuff pad, as they may not all be 100 % smooth. The goal is no gloss, not sand throughs.
- The remaining blend area of the panel should be sanded with 800-1000 grit depending upon the paint company recommendations for the color we use that year. Enough sanding to remove texture in the clear, with No gloss remaining. Avoid cut throughs when sanding. There is a small hole for hanging the panel, which may not be completely possible to scuff around due to uneven metal, and judges are aware of that.
- Once sanding is complete and final cleaning is performed, the entire section should be ready for basecoat and clear (no sealer).
- Be sure the panel is judged. When complete, and scored, the judge for Prep will place the letter P on the competitor's number label on the panel.
- Once judged, take the panel to the Spot repair trailer, a committee member will take your panel up the stairs and put you in que.

### BASECOAT

- Additional Tech members will help the competitor to wear the supplied air breathing hood for the next step which is applying basecoat.
- Tech committee members will call the competitor's number and will carry the panel for the competitor into the trailer.
- SAFETY
  - Be sure competitor is wearing a fully zipped paint suit, either their own, or one provided at Skills USA.
  - Be sure competitors are wearing gloves, provided at the competition.
  - Supplied Safety glasses are required on the competition floor until you are wearing the Supplied air respirator.
  - Once in the trailer, the competitor will see in each station 2 hoses. The shorter is for the supplied air respirator, the longer for connection to the paint gun or air blower.

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- First connect to the supplied air respirator and be sure the supplied air respirator hood is in the down position for safety.

### BASECOAT CONTINUED

- Waterborne basecoat will be applied over the spot repair. Inside the spray stations there will be handheld blowers, in the downdraft trailer to help flash. Follow paint company recommendations for application wetness, and to see if a blending additive or wet-bed is an option.
- APPLICATION
  - Each spray station has rolls of white masking paper to test spray gun settings. DO NOT PAINT ON BOOTH WALLS. Tech Committee member will hold your panel while you test patterns, and help place panel back on the panel stand.
  - Adjust the spray gun to proper air pressure. Guns are equipped with digital gauges.
  - Tack panel prior to applying basecoat, tack rags provided in the booth
  - Basecoat usually requires 2 to 3 coats, and a drop or control coat. Recommendations for the air pressure, or for application tips are on the paint company Technical Data Sheets. Will also be covered in the walk through on Wednesday afternoon. This is a spot repair, do not get basecoat on competitor #.
  - Flash time – most paint companies require flash time between coats of basecoat, accelerated with the help of a handheld blower. Others may allow back to back coats, please refer to specific Paint company TDS. If over application happens, and it is taking too long in the spray station, the panel will be taken out of the booth, and dried outside the trailer by a tech committee member. This keeps things on time for all competitors. When dry, the competitor will be brought back into the trailer to finish the basecoat.
  - Once the competitor says the basecoat is finished, the judge will score the panel, and mark the number decal with a B. Letting the competitor know it is scored.
  - Tech Committee members will remove the panel and carry it out to the stage outside the trailer to wait, and competitor goes back in line to prepare for clearcoat.

### CLEARCOAT

- Tech committee members will call the competitor's number and will carry the panel for the competitor into the trailer.
- Be sure competitor is wearing a fully zipped paint suit, either their own, or one provided at Skills USA.
- Be sure competitor is wearing the provided air supplied respirator & gloves, provided at the competition.
- CLEARCOAT APPLICATION
  - Set spray gun pressures, and test patterns on white paper roll on the stand, NOT BOOTH WALLS.
  - Tack the panel before clearcoat, tack rags provided in trailer
  - The clearcoat will be applied per the recommendations of the paint manufacturer supplying the clearcoat each year. Apply clear to the entire panel, over competitor number too.
  - Clearcoat is normally two coats, with a very short flash time between coats at this competition.

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### CLEARCOAT CONTINUED

- If the clearcoat is to be applied in a 1 1/2 coat application, or wet on wet, that will be in the paint company TDS. Also, will be discussed in the walk through on Wednesday afternoon.
- Once complete, the competitor tells the judge it is done. After the judge scores the panel, they place a large X on the panel with a paint stick. This simply means it has been judged, so don't be surprised.

SATA TrueSun LED lights will be available for competitors to use when the booth spraying. Also judges in Basecoat/Clearcoat booth will have a TrueSun light to help make correct scoring possible.

This is what the spot repair panel will look like when you first see it. It will be a metallic color, to show gun technique, spot and blending ability. Remember this is a spot repair competition, not a panel paint competition. No color should appear on the competitor's label with their competitor's number.

