

For sound seals to work properly they must be adjusted to make positive contact with the door. There will be pressure between the sound seal gasket and the painted surface of the door. Some types of paint will not dry completely under this condition. It is imperative that the type of paint selected dries completely and results in a smooth, hard surface. If the wrong type of finish paint is used the paint will become soft and sticky. This condition is called “Plasticizer Migration”. Plasticizer migration occurs when solvents from uncured paint reacts with neoprene or vinyl gaskets, particularly with some latex paints. The problem appears to be the paints’ slow release of solvent that dissolves out the plasticizer in the gasket.

To avoid this problem we recommend using a “low VOC” or “no VOC” finish paint, VOC stands for “volatile organic compound”. VOC’s are those ingredients in paint which are not water or other inert substances and which are given off to the atmosphere as the paint dries. Almost any product – latex, alkyd, epoxy etc. could give off solvent during the cure time (which could be one week or more). The only thing that can prevent this is to select the proper paint and keep the painted surface away from the gasket during the cure time. If you have any questions regarding type of finish paint to use, please consult a paint manufacturer for their recommendation(s) for this condition.

All paint/primer applied at our factory must comply with California Air Resources Board standards. Doors should be painted and allowed to dry completely before adjusting the sound seals.

The flexible sound seal itself must never be painted, under any circumstance, as this will render it ineffective.