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Mankiewicz

Genuinely Clean Solutions

Multi-talented paints with agents that counter graffiti and microorganisms



Paint systems are subject to increasingly stringent requirements – graffiti is one challenge the rail industry in particular has to overcome © Adobe Stock

The coronavirus pandemic has caused lots of changes and redrawn many guidelines – and that also applies to the railway industry. Manufacturers and operators of local and long-distance public transport now have to cope with manifold challenges. These include integrating hygiene concepts and reducing persistent graffiti. Hamburg-based paint manufacturer Mankiewicz has come up with solutions for both these problems.

The travel and transport industries struggled under the coronavirus pandemic. There were severe restrictions on travel, in some cases total bans, and the public tended to avoid transport such as buses and trains. In the meantime, the situation has somewhat returned to normal, but the particular demands on the bus and rail industries are higher than ever before, especially due to Covid-19. Not only does this apply to the now mandatory hygiene concepts in local and long-distance passenger transport, which have strongly come into focus for transport manufacturers and operators. But there is also a noticeable Covid effect with regards

to vandalism and graffiti, which must be tackled more effectively. For example, Deutsche Bahn has reported a 4% increase in illegal graffiti on its trains, stations and facilities in 2020 compared to 2019. In a nutshell, the conditions for the manufacturers of rail vehicles and other means of passenger transport have markedly changed since the start of the pandemic.

So how can paint systems counter Covid and graffiti, as our enigmatic title suggests? Mankiewicz, paint manufacturer based in Hamburg, provides two coating solutions to solve these problems: ALEXIT Saniseries and Easy-to-Clean



The easy-to-clean system ensures that graffiti can subsequently be removed with conventional cleaning products, leaving no residues or causing any damage to the paint surface
© Mankiewicz

Graffiti



Applying the cleaning agent



Wiping with water



Cleaning off with cloth

systems. These coating systems address the abovementioned challenges in different ways, but they both offer efficient and effective solutions as well as various scopes of use for the rail industry.

ALEXIT Saniserie: No Chance for Microorganisms on Surfaces

Millions of times a day, countless passengers touch the handgrips, armrests, backrests and many other parts, collectively known as high-touch areas. These are perfect places for bacteria and germs to collect and propagate. In order to prevent this, transport

manufacturers and operators are more than ever called upon to develop new hygiene concepts and technologies that provide persistent protection for passengers.

Mankiewicz addresses this demand with its ALEXIT Saniserie: these paints contain antimicrobial agents that significantly inhibit the development of microorganisms on coated surfaces. The effectiveness of the paint system is tested according to the internationally recognised JIS Z 2801 standard (ISO 22196) and classified as “log level 4”, which means the paints achieve a 99.99% reduction in bacteria on surfaces. Particularly in these times of Covid-19, the reduction of bacteria on coated surfaces is a valuable contribution to hygiene.

Manufacturers and operators also stand to profit from the paint system and the keyword here is carefree: The ALEXIT series is extremely durable and meets the strictest FST requirements. As a water-based coating system, it is also environmentally friendly and has a long service life. In addition, it is customisable in terms of colour, effects, texture and gloss. Overall, the coating system is very easy to work with, as there are no special requirements for application. The coating system also provides an answer to the problem of odours, which is important for railway operators. In particular, the sanitary areas in trains are often a source of unpleasant odours, which are ultimately caused by bacteria. As the formation of bacteria is strongly inhibited by the antimicrobial

agents of ALEXIT Saniserie, the result is a reduction in odours. Over the longer term there are also benefits, because tests prove that the paint remains highly effective even after 12 years, without repainting or additional coats.

In order to ensure that users have a wide variety of colours and effects to choose from when designing these high-touch areas, Mankiewicz developed the system with a basecoat and clearcoat. As a result, almost all popular colour and design effects can be implemented with paints that contain antimicrobial active ingredients. Of course, the ALEXIT range is also suitable for other areas of application in railways, examples of which are air ducts that are difficult or

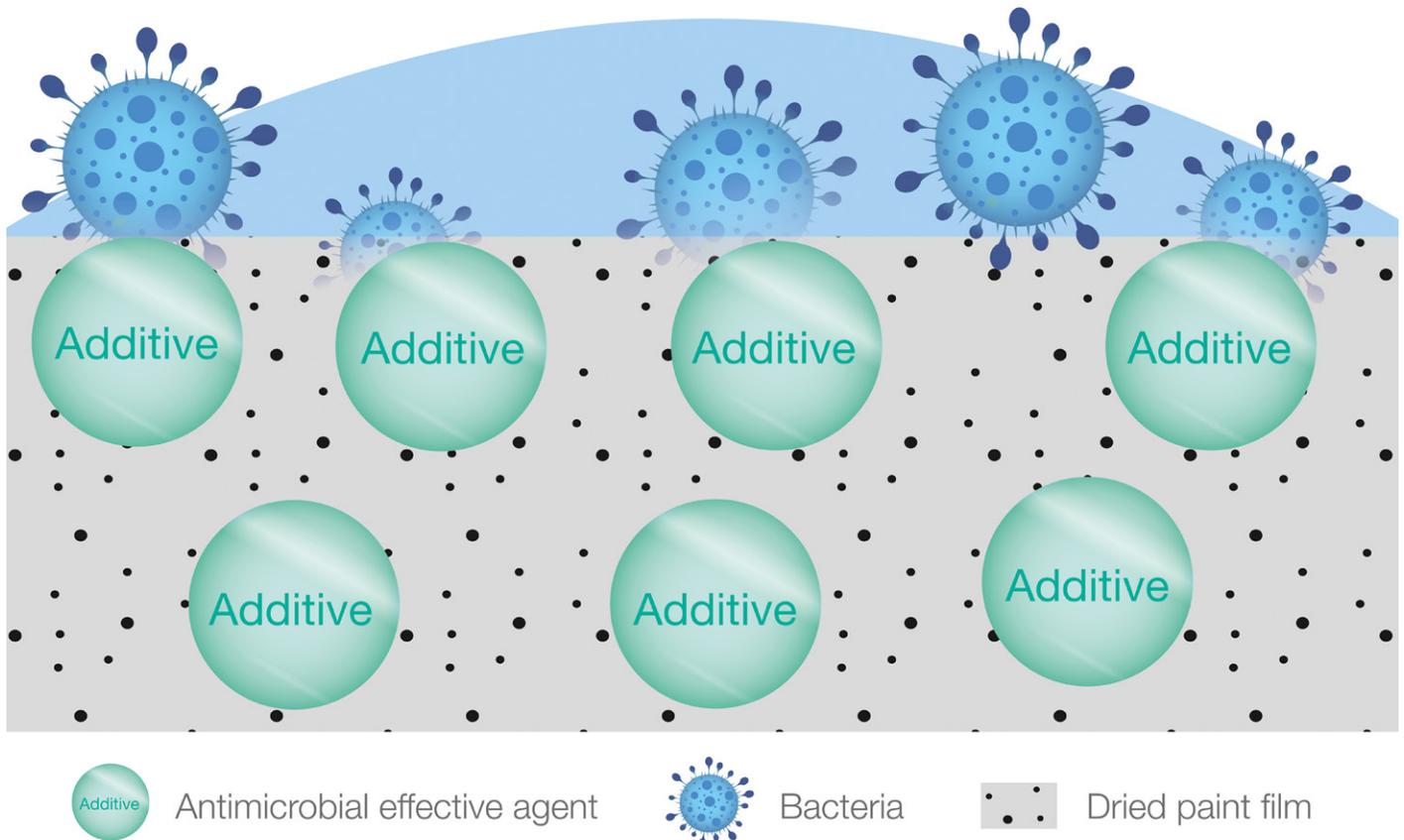
almost impossible to clean, and air conditioning systems. These are all perfect applications for paints with antimicrobial active ingredients.

Anti-graffiti Systems: One Wipe and It's Gone

The removal of graffiti costs railway operators a lot of money every year. For example, Deutsche Bahn had to dig deep into its pockets in 2020, to the tune of over 12 million euros. It is not only the exterior of carriages that fall prey to "graffiti artists". Areas of the interior, such as the toilets and power distribution boxes, are also popular for immortalisations of questionable value. To address these problems, Mankiewicz has developed highly

effective anti-graffiti solutions for the exterior and interior that protect against graffiti made with paint, lacquer, ink or a felt-tip marker. On purpose the Easy-to-Clean system does not prevent graffiti from being applied, but ensures it is simple to subsequently remove with commercially available graffiti cleaners, without their attacking the paint surface.

For railway operators, the anti-graffiti paint not only makes cleaning easier, but also offers economic advantages. Due to the simple and effective cleaning process, repainting is no longer necessary, sparing the associated downtime. This translates to enormous cost savings for operators.



ALEXIT Saniserie: the coating system contains antimicrobial agents that significantly inhibit the development of microorganisms on coated surfaces © Mankiewicz

At the same time, the anti-graffiti coating systems from Mankiewicz all meet high quality standards, such as the popular national and international fire protection certifications of the European DIN EN ISO 45545-2 and the American NFPA 130. In particular, the Mankiewicz range of paints for train exteriors sets standards worldwide and is very close in quality to those used in the automotive industry. Perfect painting results are also in demand in the railway industry: manufacturers of rail vehicles are placing ever greater emphasis on a flawless appearance and greater durability – even after many years of use. As a full-service partner to the railway industry, Mankiewicz not only offers interior and exterior paints, but also systems for bogies and wheelsets. This means that manufacturers of rail vehicles can obtain all their coating systems from a single source and thus make use of synergies.

All in all, Mankiewicz provides innovative and strong solutions to address the key challenges of the railway industry with the two coating systems described. As a specialised expert in industrial coatings, Mankiewicz can draw on decades of experience and proven know-how to meet the individual requirements of its customers.

Handgrips, armrests and backrests belong to what are called high-touch areas in public transport and thus place high demands on cleanliness
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