

Application Data



Mica - Water Washed - Muscovite



Authorized Distributor

BSI's Assortment

Economical:

SG-50	40 - 60 μ
SG-70	25 - 25 μ
SG-75	15 - 25 μ
SG-90	18 - 28 μ

Moderately Priced:

CD-3200	15 - 25 μ
CD-2200	12 - 18 μ
CD-1600	12 - 16 μ
CD-800	8 - 12 μ

Tight Distribution:

OPTISheen C	42 - 56 μ
OPTIBright	12 - 16 μ
OPTIFine	8 - 12 μ

Premium Grade:

GIMSheen 50	48 - 55 μ
GIMSheen 40	34 - 44 μ
GIMSheen 20	20 - 25 μ

Coarse Flake:

GIMflake 100	100 μ
GIMflake 70	68 μ

Mica is a hydrous aluminum potassium silicate mineral. The mica particle is a platelet, which from side to side has the appearance of pages in a book. In order to retain the maximum benefit of the mica platelet, it is necessary to delaminate it while reducing its size. Our mica is wet ground in chaser mills, which preserves the integrity of the particle surface and keeps it free from scratches and defects.

This in turn gives the mica superb refractive index and high light reflectance. In addition, the mica has a very high aspect ratio which

A high aspect ratio is the single most important contributing characteristic to the quality of mica.

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Coatings and Sealants:

In coatings and sealants, mica provides exterior durability and weather

resistance, improves corrosion resistance in primers, offers increased resistance to degradation by UV radiation and increases barrier properties against moisture and atmospheric gasses. It also increases film toughness, adhesion and flexibility, reduces cracking, peeling and checking, has excellent flattening properties and controls slump and improves crack resistance in sealants.

Other common applications include metal protective and maintenance paints, traffic paints, exterior wood stains and clears, heat resisting paints and floor and porch paints.

The excellent slip, reinforcing, barrier properties and high aspect ratio make mica very desirable in caulk and sealant applications.

Plastics:

In nylon and other engineering polymers, it improves tensile, flexural and impact properties. It improves uniformity and strength characteristics of glass reinforced thermosets and decreases shrinkage of injection molded components. It also reduces the cost of fiberglass reinforced thermosets and thermoplastics through partial glass replacement. In extruded, blown or molded products, mica insures greater heat stability, reduced mold shrinkage, increased stiffness and less warpage.

Cosmetics:

Mica is similar to talc both chemically and physically, and is used in a wide range of cosmetics, including pressed powders, body powders, liquid makeup, lipstick and nail lacquers. Due to the wet grinding process, Cosmetic Mica BC displays exceptionally good sheen, imparts a pearlescent effect and is transparent. This material is also available with a hydrophobic surface treatment. This allows for high levels in anhydrous systems along with improved slip and skin adhesion.

Other Applications:

Mica is also used in lubricants, greases, welding rod coatings, fabric coatings, silicone release agents and dry powder fire extinguishers. In rubber it's used as a dusting agent to prevent sticking and tackiness, and as a mold release agent. It also reduces the penetration of gases. It is used in wallpaper to impart a silky or pearly luster, in textiles for the lubrication of carding machines and in agriculture for an even flow of seeds.

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