

**DIRECTORATE GENERAL BORDER ROADS**  
**GENERAL MAINTENANCE INSTRUCTION NO.117**

**ON**

**PRESERVATION OF PAINTS AND ENAMELS**

**Introduction**

1. Thickening and ultimately solidification of the paint enamels due to evaporation or leakage of the thinner are the main causes for deterioration of paints and enamels. Caking or solidification of the paint due to setting of the pigment at the bottom when drum container is left undisturbed for a long time also affects the paints and enamels. This can be avoided by adopting correct methods of care and preservation.

**Aim**

2. The aim of this instruction is to lay down the correct method of preservation and care to prolong the life of paints and enamels.

**Action by**

3. (a) Units/Store Companies. To ensure that the Paints and Enamels Stores are properly preserved as per details given in Appendix 'A' to this instructions.
- (b) CE Project/Task Forces. To ensure that the stores are checked periodically for correct preservation.

**Details**

4. The correct method of care and preservation of paints and Enamel stores are given as per Appendix 'A' to this instruction.

**PRESERVATION OF PAINTS AND ENAMELS**

precautions during storage

- (a) Paints, enamels and allied products should be stored in a cool, dry place in leak proof, properly sealed/stopered and rust proof containers.
- (b) 3" thick bed of dry sand should be provided.
- (c) All leaky containers should be immediately replaced by sound ones.
- (d) No naked fires and smoking should be permitted in the storehouse.
- (e) Form type of fire Extinguishers and buckets of sand (not water) should be available in the storehouse.
- (f) Sealed paint drums should be rolled and turned about and restacked every six months
- (g) Paints should be drawn from the orifice provided for the purpose and no extra holes must be punches in the lid. If a proper cap is not available for the orifice, this should be plugged by means of tapering wooden plug. No gunny material be used to block the orifice since this involves the risk of spontaneous combustion.
- (h) Paint drums from which some paint has been drawn should be stirred once a month by means of a rod and closed securely again.