



# EVALUATIONS OF WETTING AND DISPERSING ADDITIVES FOR USE IN WATERBORNE ANTI-CORROSIVE PAINTS



Golden Gate Society for Coatings Technology

# Outline

- **Market trends**
- **Review of wetting and dispersing fundamentals**
- **Recent developments**
  - Tailor-made dispersing additives based on novel chemical structures.
- **Application results**
- **Summary**

# **EVALUATIONS OF WETTING AND DISPERSING ADDITIVES FOR USE IN WATERBORNE ANTI-CORROSIVE PAINTS**

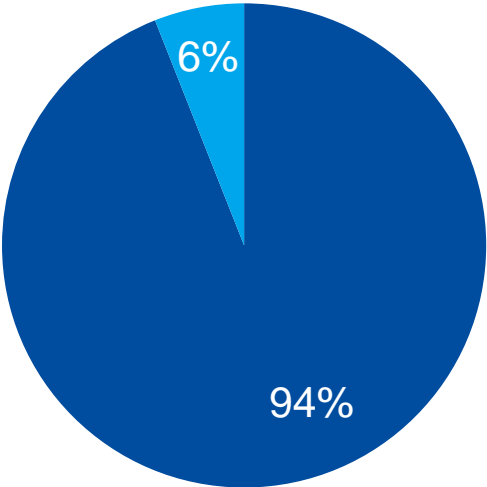
**Why is this topic of relevance?**

# Key Technologies for VOC Reduction

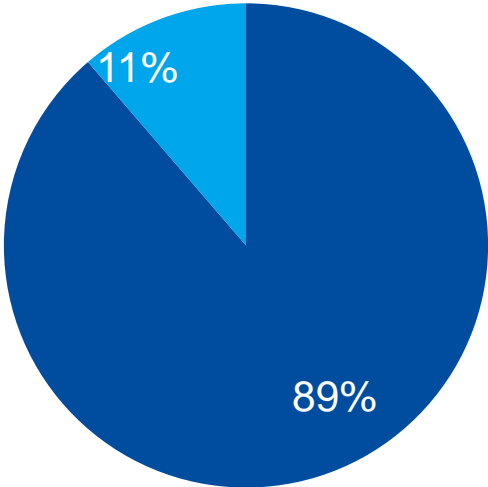
<b>Technology</b>	<b>VOC (g/l)</b>
<b>Conventional paint systems</b>	<b>400-500</b>
<b>High solids</b>	<b>250-340</b>
<b>Solvent free</b>	<b>0-100</b>
<b>Powder</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Waterborne systems</b>	<b>0-100</b>

# Waterborne Anti-Corrosive Paints

**Market share 2012**



**Market share 2020 Est.**

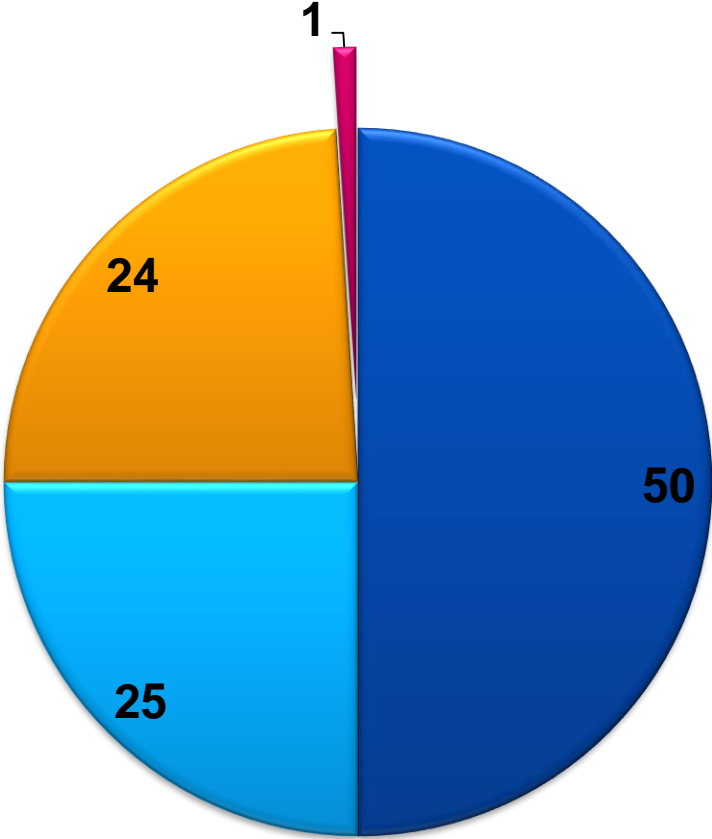


- conventional paints
- waterborne paints

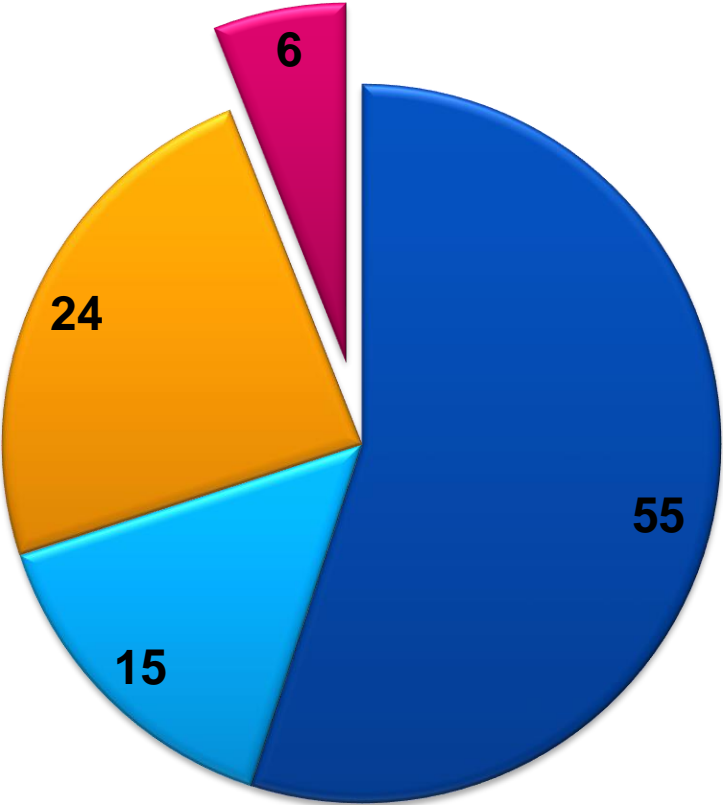
Advantages	Disadvantages
Low Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC)	Complex film formation process
Less odor than conventional systems	Application restrictions (low temperatures, high humidity...)
Non flammable	Flash rust
Fewer toxic compounds	More expensive
	Paint manufacturing process is more difficult

# Typical Paint Formulations: Past & Present

Conventional

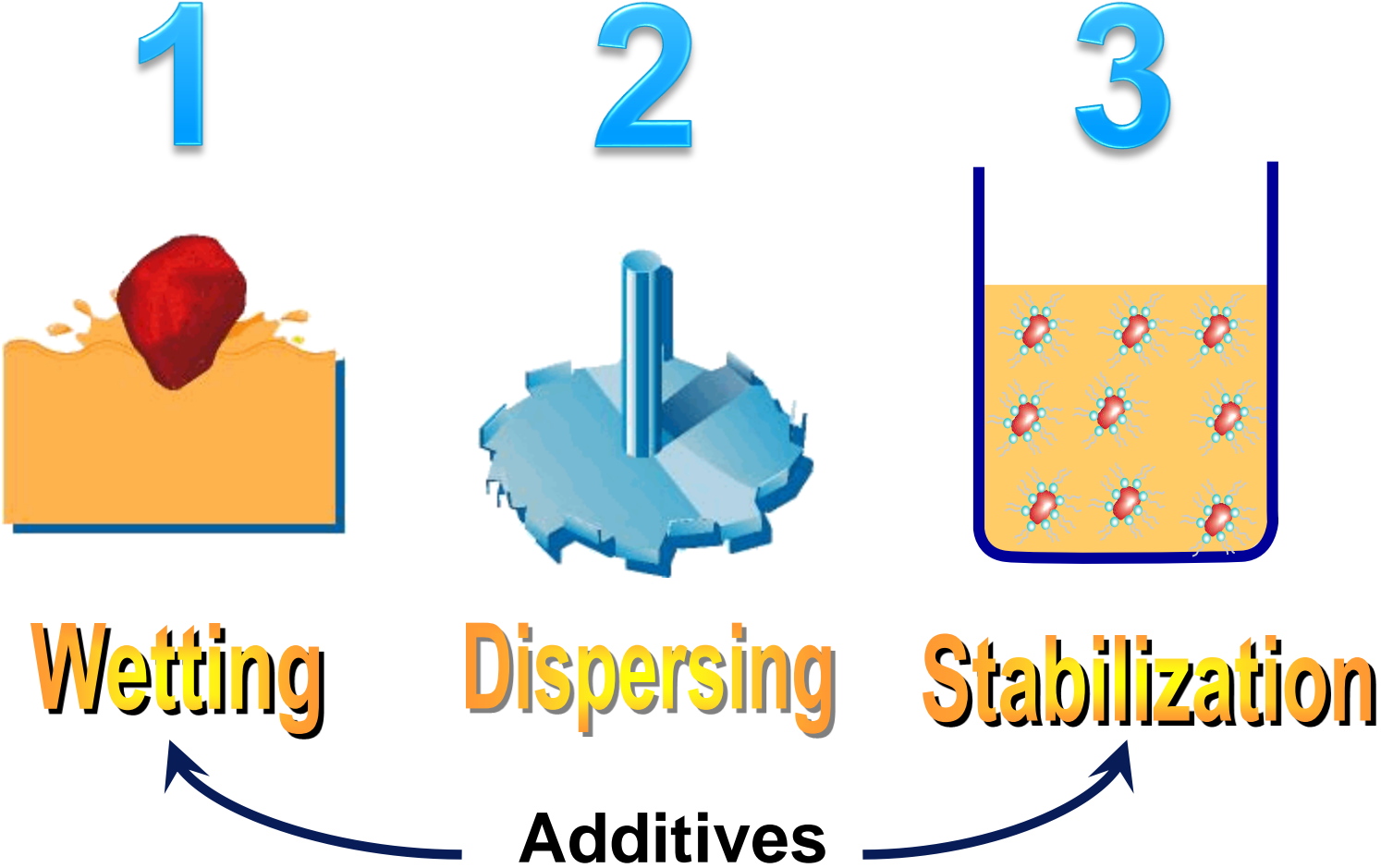


New Technologies

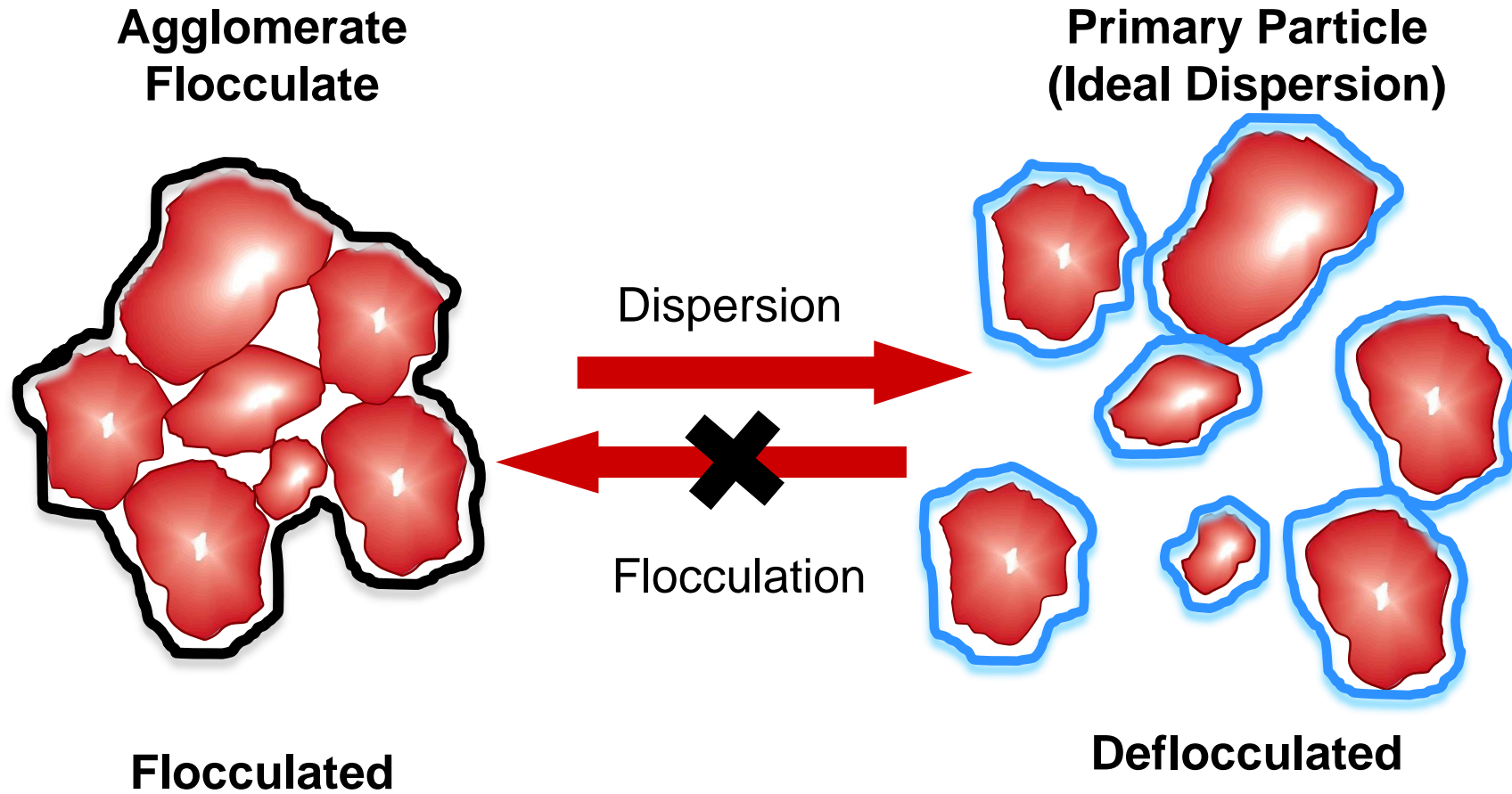


■ Resins   ■ Solvents   ■ Pigments   ■ Additives

# Wetting & Dispersing Process

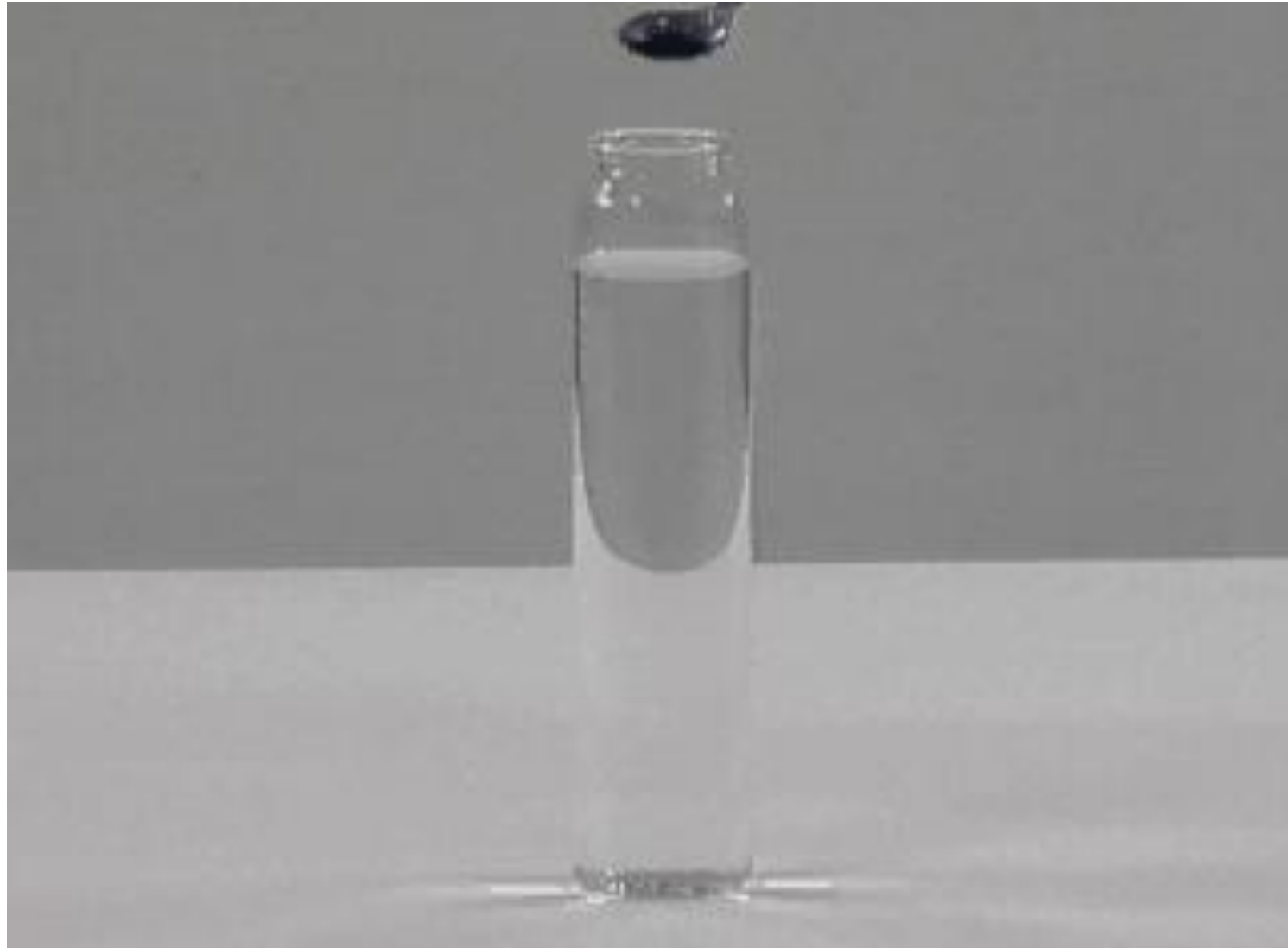


# Pigment Dispersion - Stabilization





# Wetting Additives



# Dispersing Additives

“Processing Aids”



**Without dispersing additive**  
**Flocculated**  
**High viscosity**

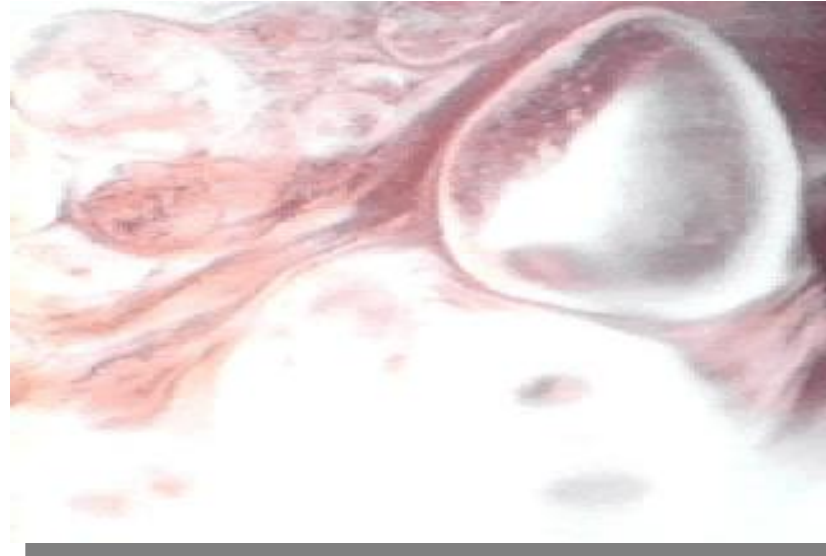


**With dispersing additive**  
**Deflocculated**  
**Low viscosity**

# Flocculation vs Deflocculation

## **Flocculation:**

Low Gloss  
Poor transparency/hiding  
Weak color development  
High/unstable viscosity



## **Deflocculation:**

High Gloss  
Good transparency/hiding  
Strong color development  
Low/stable Viscosity

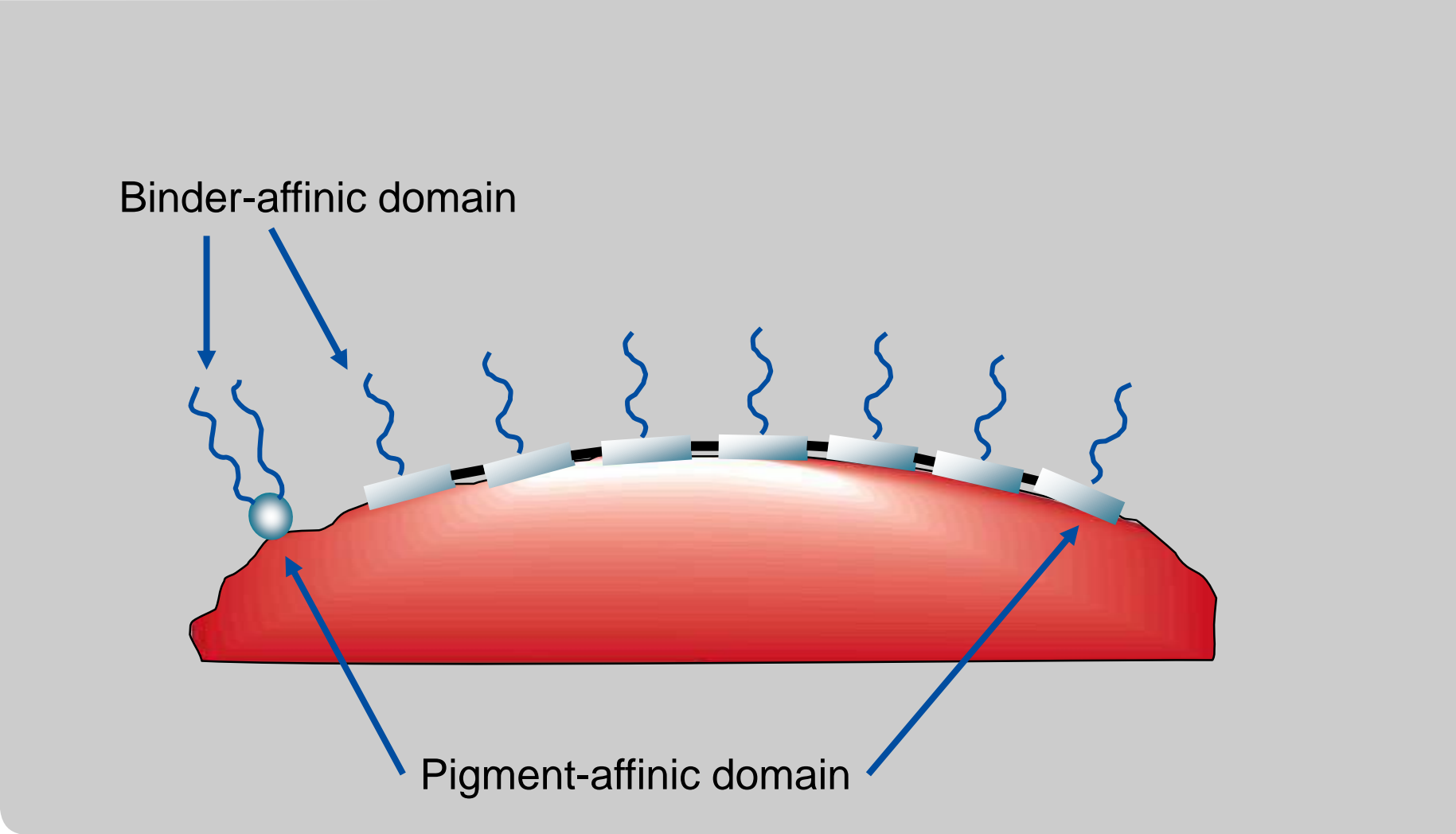


# Wetting and Dispersing Additives Summary

## Adding Value

- **Reduce viscosity** and enables the formulation of higher solids systems stabilize
- **Reduce grinding time** which speed up batch time and improves production costs
- **Stabilize the pigment dispersion** which results in good color acceptance, storage stability with regard to tint strength and viscosity
- **Uniformly disperse active pigments or other particles** throughout the film matrix

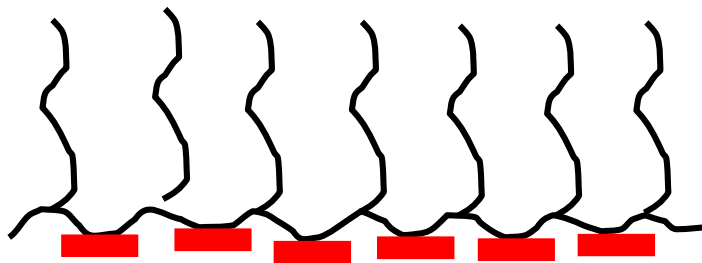
# Domains of a wetting & dispersing additive



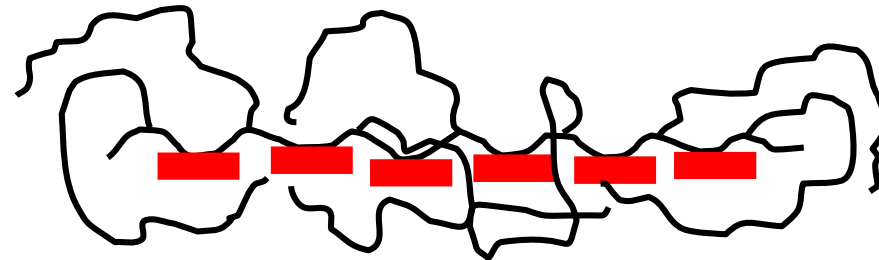
# Wetting & Dispersing Additives Compatibility

## Important factors: Binder system

- The additive must be compatible in the binder system(s) used
  - Incompatibility leads to coiling and blocking of pigment-affinic groups/blocks  
⇒ reduced efficiency / total loss of effectiveness depending on the degree of incompatibility



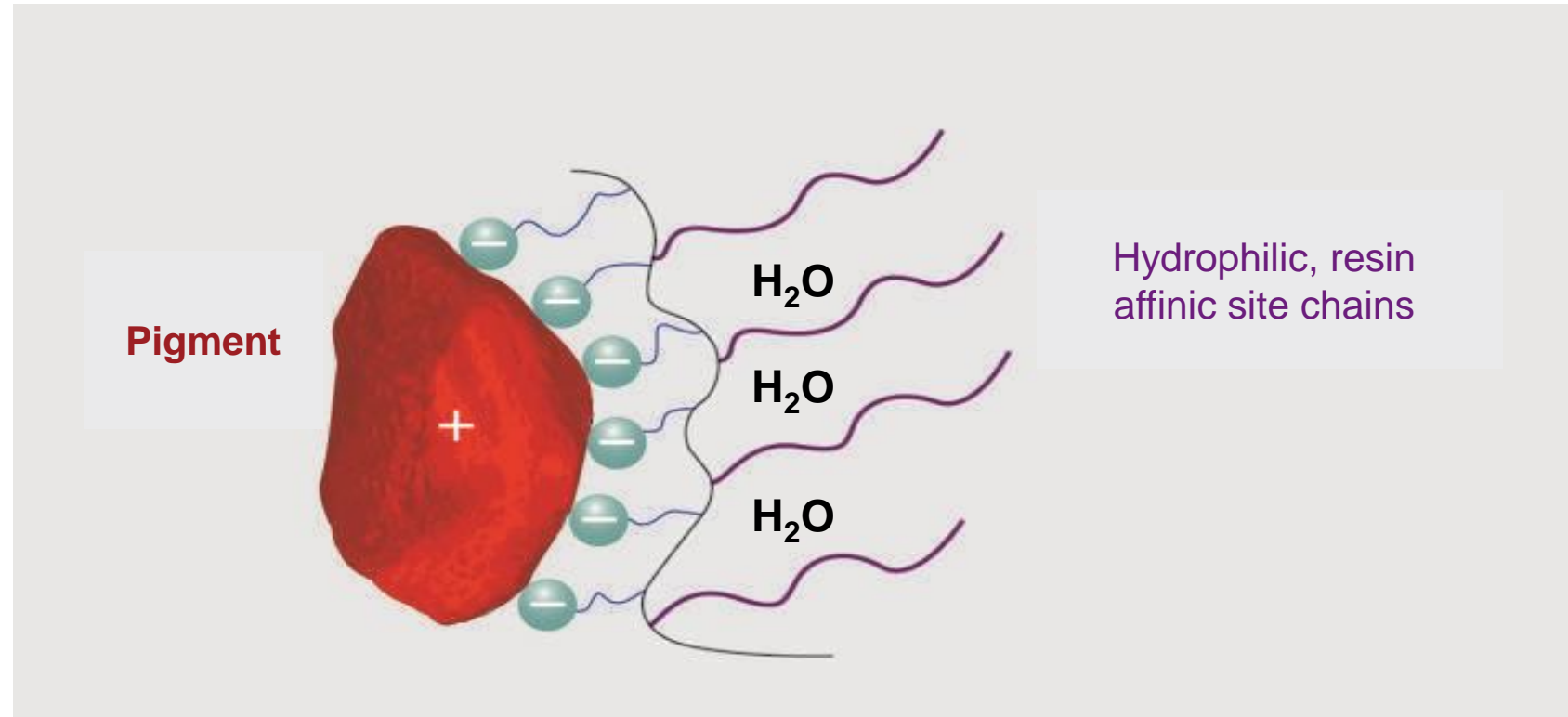
compatible



incompatible

# Architecture of Wetting and Dispersing Additives

## Background



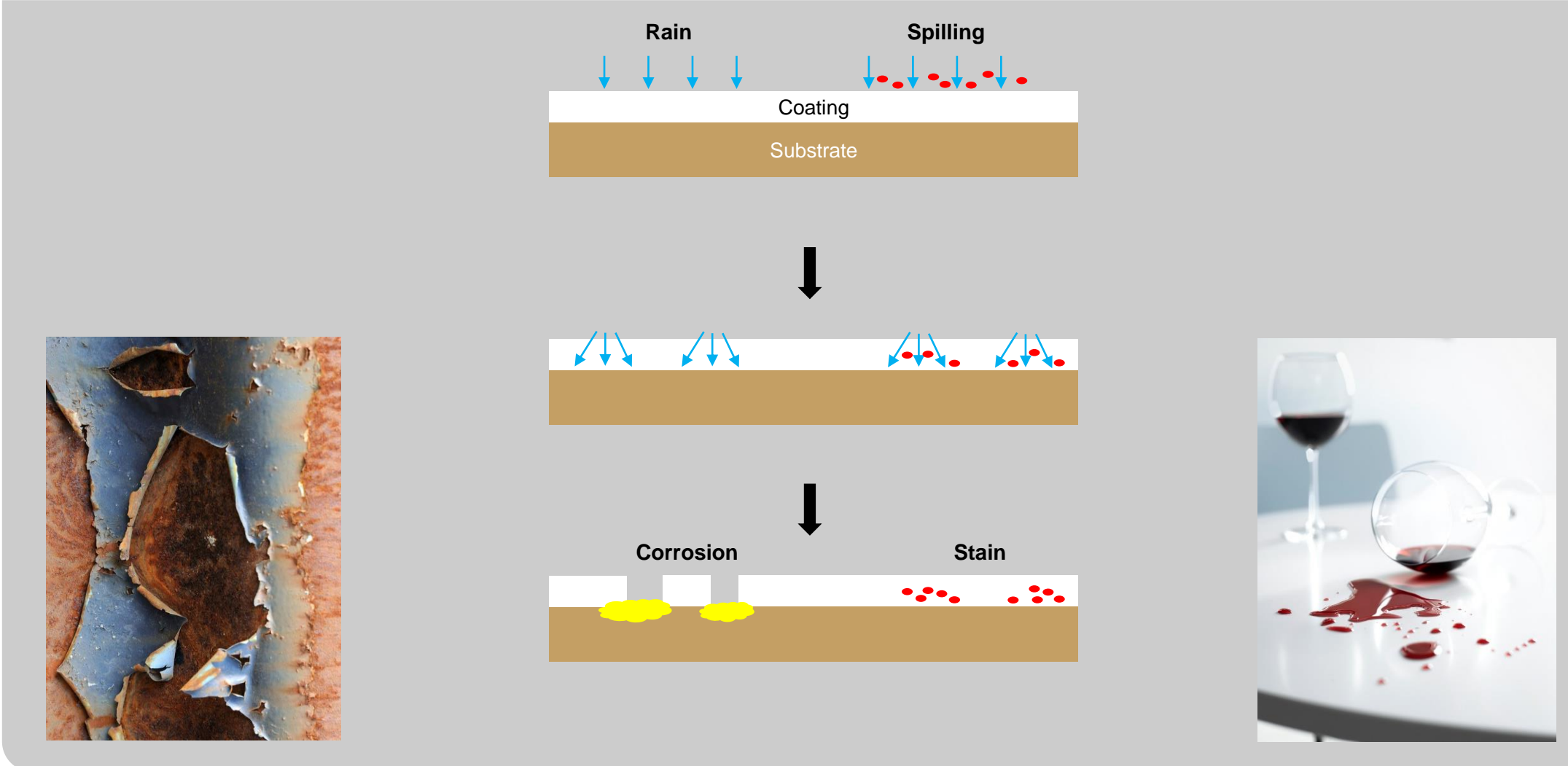
- Components remain present in the cured coating and bear the risk to increase the overall hydrophilicity

# Impact of Wetting and Dispersing Additives

- Tailored domains (binder and pigment affinic) are needed for the best performance of the additive
- Solubility/ compatibility of the additive is achieved by polar binder affinic domains based on e.g. polyethers, acidic groups, salt structure
- These polar domains stay in paint film and make it easier for ions and water to penetrate



# Corrosion and Stain



# Recent Developments

## Desired properties


- Develop new wetting and dispersing additives, based on novel chemical structures and new synthesis techniques, that allow paint manufacturers to produce higher performance aqueous systems
- Environmentally friendly, APEO Free, Zero/Low VOC, etc.
- Show improved compatibility with various binder chemistries
- Show acceptable viscosity reduction, deflocculation, and stabilization properties with inorganic pigments
- Additives should have the “least negative” impact on critical film properties:
  - Corrosion resistance
  - Early water resistance properties
  - Stain resistance



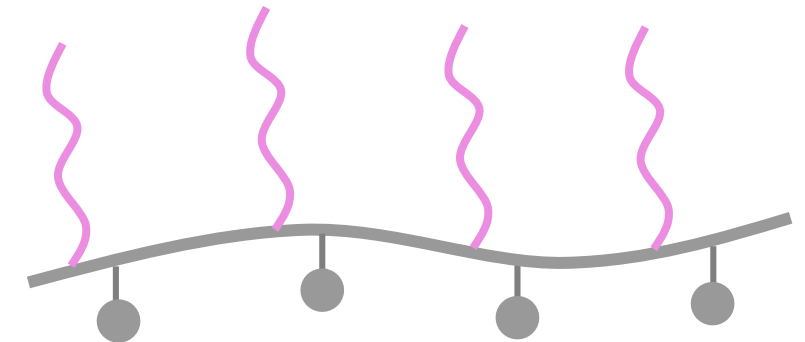
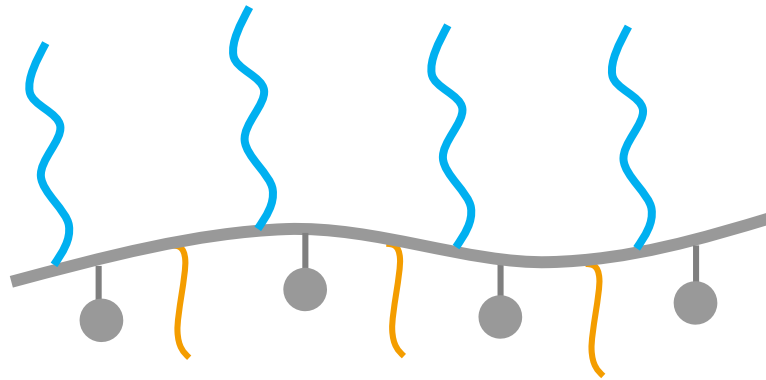
# Concepts for W&D Agents to Reduce Water Sensitivity

## I. Overall Increase of Hydrophobicity

 Non-polar, hydrophobic groups

 Polar, hydrophilic groups

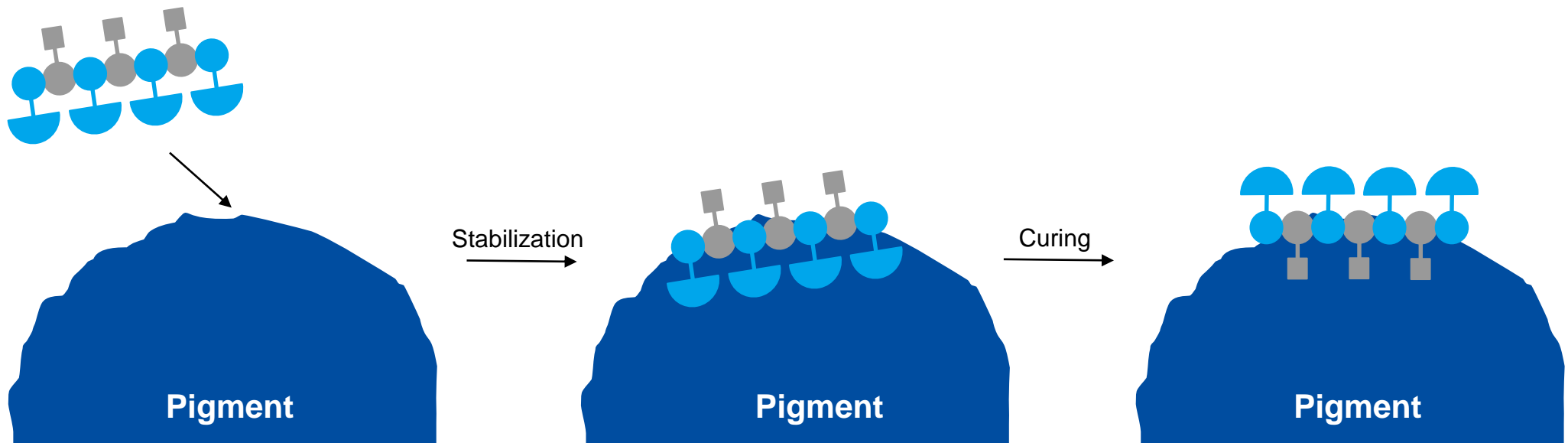
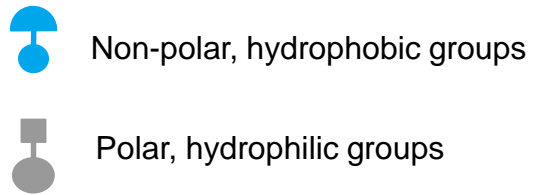
 Mixed Polarity



- Adjustment of overall hydrophobicity by varying resin affinic side chains and backbone
- Tailoring to the polarity sweet spot of a particular aqueous system, may jeopardize broad system applicability



# Concepts for W&D Agents to Reduce Water Sensitivity

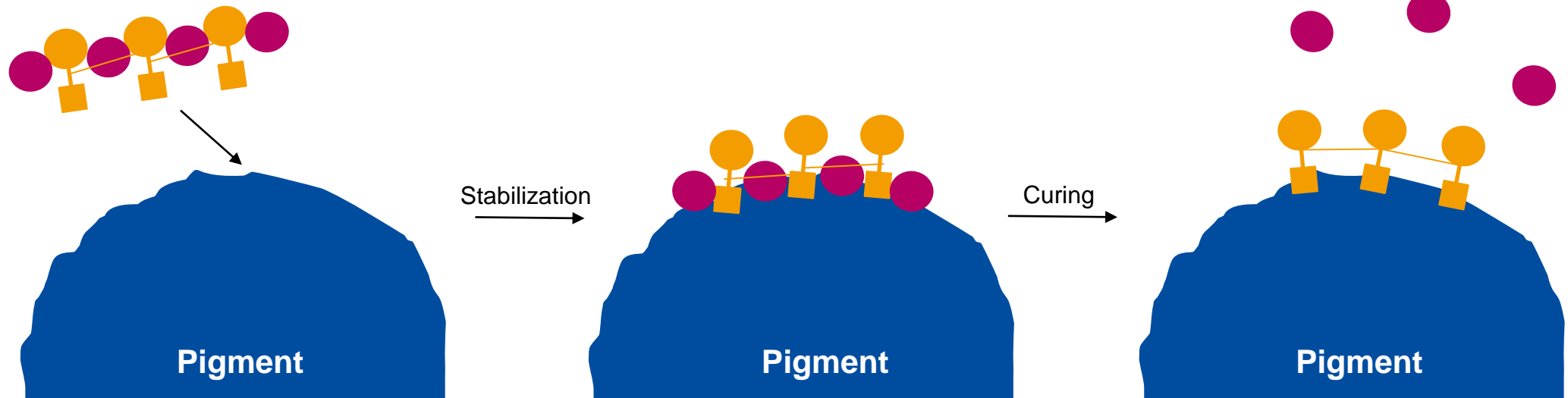
## II. Structural Rearrangement



# Concepts for W&D Agents to Reduce Water Sensitivity

## III. Smart Adaptation

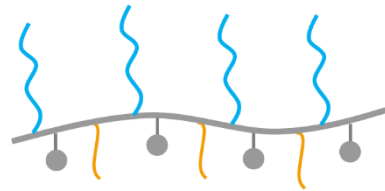
-  Non-polar, hydrophobic groups
-  Polar, hydrophilic groups



# Wetting & Dispersing Agents to Reduce Water Sensitivity

## Exciting new Entries into the Sector of Multifunctional Additives

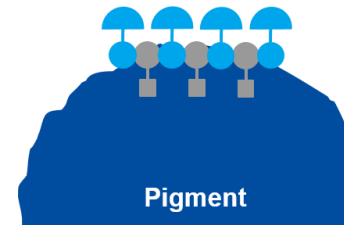
### I. Overall increase of Hydrophobicity



#### Proposed Working Mechanism

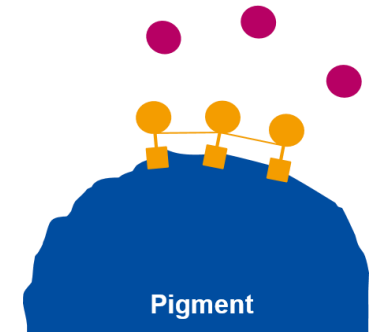
- Incorporation of resin affinic side chains with a lower polarity in W&D additive

### II. Structural Rearrangement



- Architecture undergoes a structural change and adapts its polarity during the drying process

### III. Smart Adaptation



- Polar & non-polar components are combined. During the curing process, the polar component separates and leaves the hydrophobic part behind

# Wetting and Dispersing Additives Summary

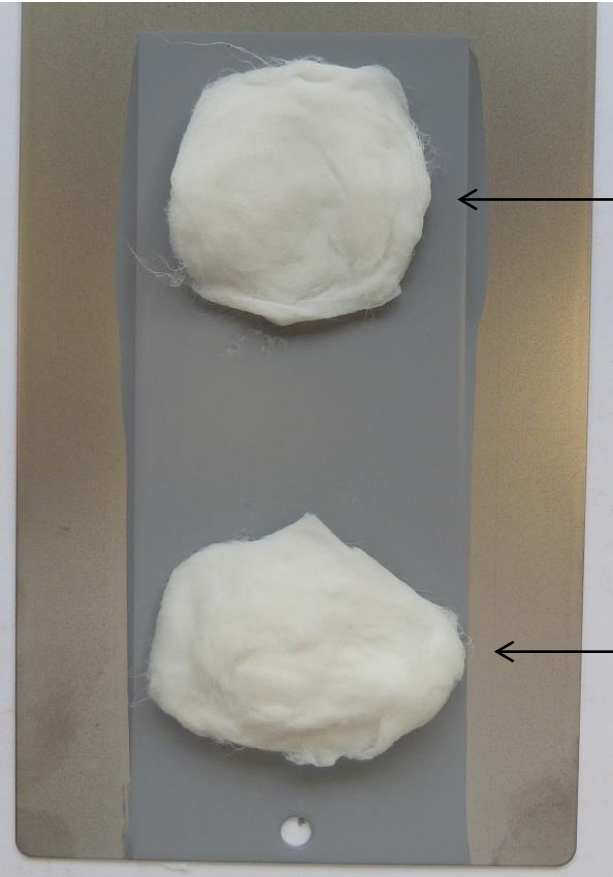
## Basic Additive Chemistries

In order for wetting and dispersing additives to be compatible in the system and build up sufficient interactions to the liquid matrix, the binder reactive groups need to have some hydrophilic properties. These hydrophilic or ionic domains are necessary to make the wetting and dispersing additive usable for its actual purpose.

Since they stay in the paint film after curing and film formation processes they may influence parameters like early water resistance, water uptake and corrosion resistance.

- Fatty Acids (FS series)
- Phosphoric acid esters (PS series)
- Polyurethane (PU series)
- Polyacrylates (AC series)

# Early water resistance



Water application after 4h drying

Water application after 24h drying

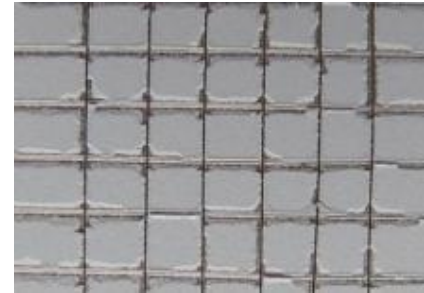
Gitterschnitt-Kennwert	Aussehen der Oberfläche im Bereich des Gitterschnittes, an der Abplatzung aufgetreten ist (Beispiel für sechs parallele Schnitte)
0	—
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	—



# Early Water Resistance - Adhesion

Additive	4h drying [GT]	24h drying [GT]	Salt Spray
Control	1	1	600
FS-1	5	1	384
PS-1	2	2	500
PU-1	0	0	700
AC-2	5	5	140
AC-1	5	5	140
AC-3	2	3	700
AC-4	0-1	0-1	384
AC-5	0	0	700
AC-6	0	0	700

Control after 24h



AC-1 after 24h



AC-5 after 24h



Test formulation: Waterborne Alkyd Anti-corrosive Primer

# Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS)

## Screening Method for Water Uptake

- Allows fast screening of many samples
- Measuring impedance
  - Indication of water uptake and corrosion resistance
  - Higher water uptake → lower impedance
- Correlation to salt spray and condensation test
  - Detect worst and best results



# Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy (EIS)

## Higher Impedance → Less Water Uptake

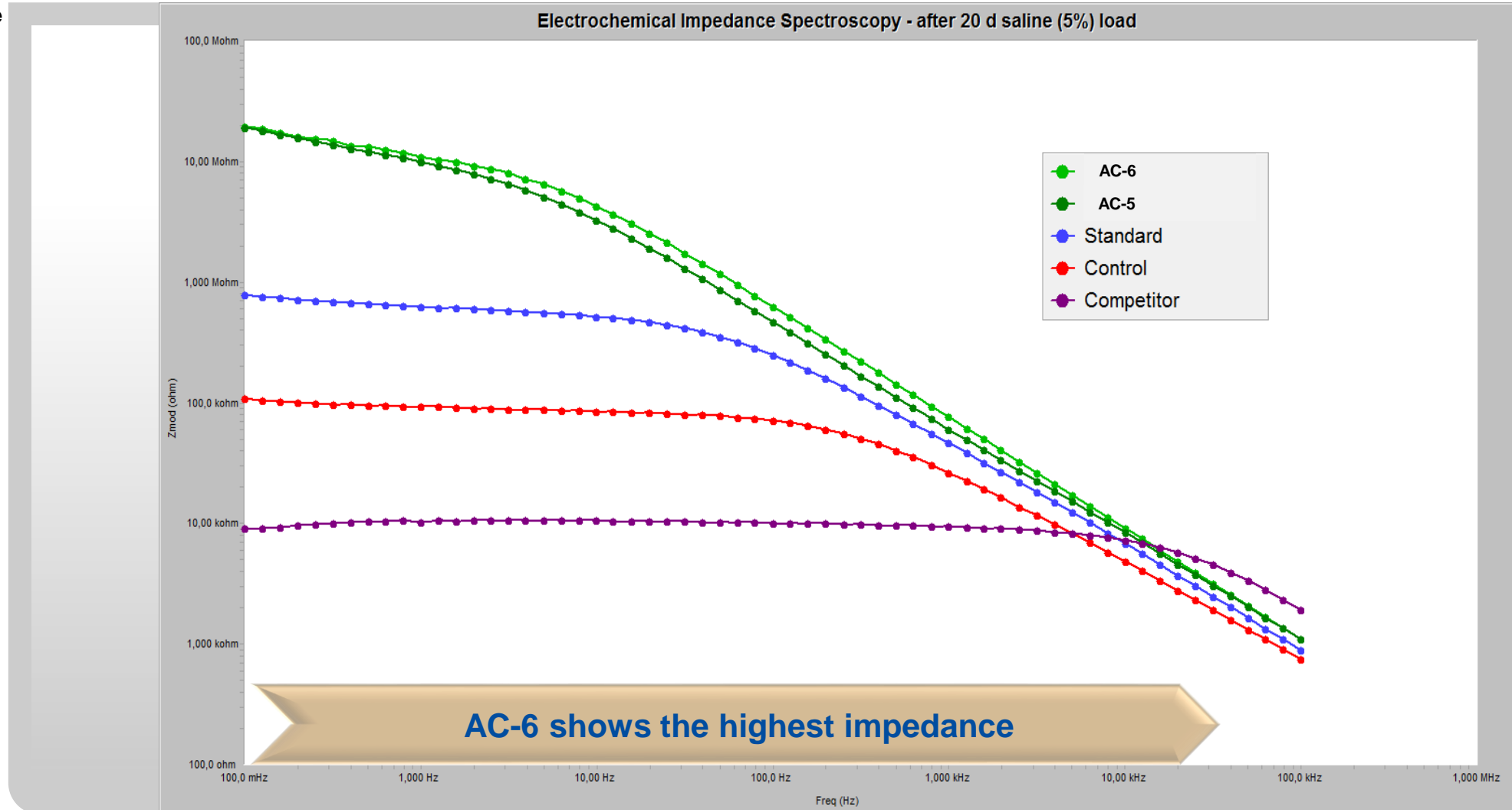
### Electrochemical Impedance Spectroscopy

Test formulation:  
Water-borne alkyd anticorrosive primer

Substrate: smooth steel  
DFT: **80 µm**  
Drying: **7 d ambient**  
NaCl Load: **20 d**

### Measuring Parameter:

AC Voltage: 15 mV  
Initial Frequency: 100 kHz  
Final Frequency: 0,1 Hz  
Points / decade: 10  
Area (cm<sup>2</sup>): 1



Test formulation: Waterborne alkyd anti-corrosive primer

# Test Methods to Determine the Influence of W&D on Coatings Performance

ID	Water Pickup	IR Diffusion	Permeability	Early Water Resistance	Salt Spray
Blank	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
FS-1	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Green	Yellow
PS-1	Yellow	Yellow	Grey	Yellow	Yellow
PU-1	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green
AC-1	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
AC-2	Red	Red	Red	Red	Red
AC-3	Red	Red	Green	Yellow	Green
AC-4	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow
AC-5	Yellow	Red	Green	Green	Green
AC-6	Green	Yellow	Green	Green	Green

# Condensation Atmosphere

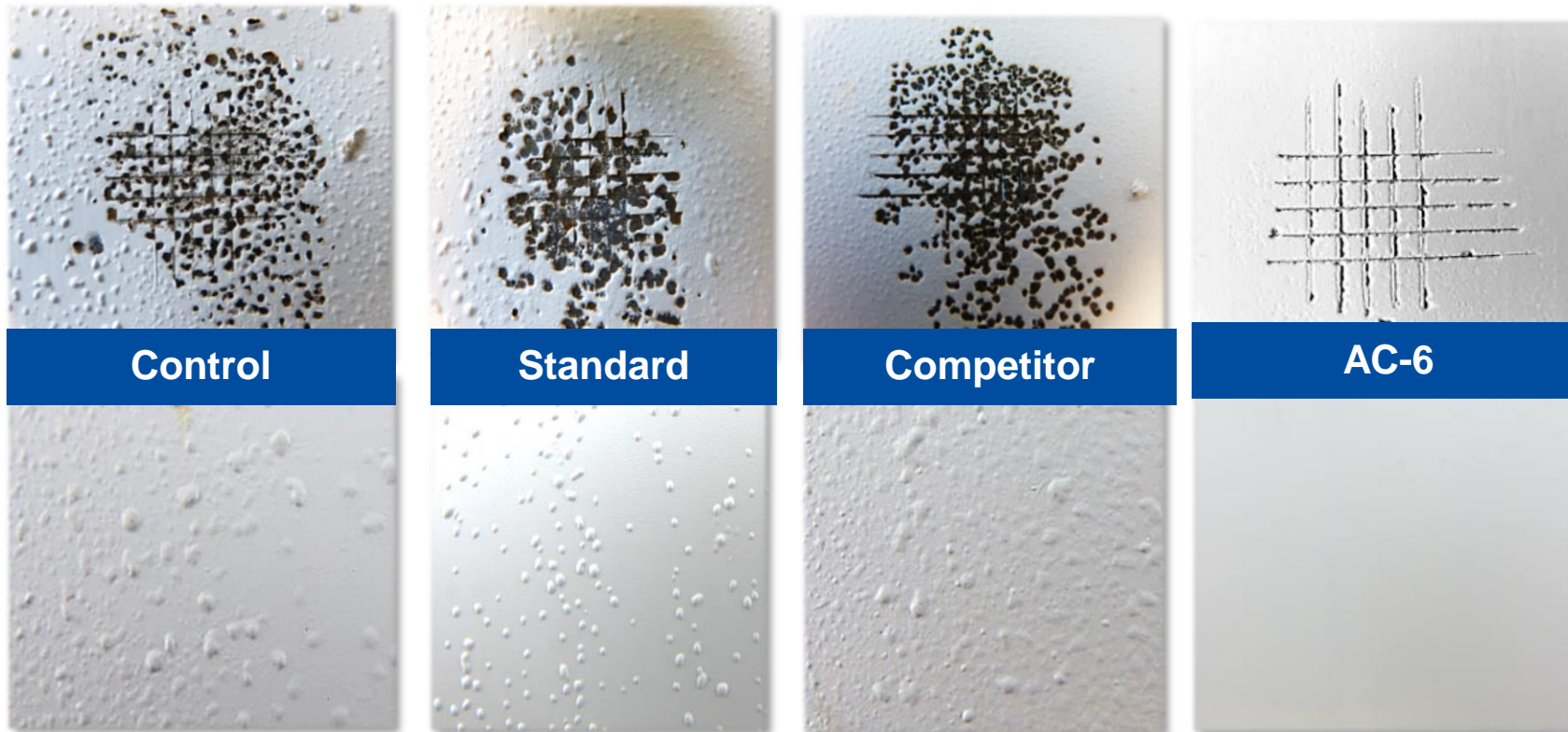
After 240 hr condensation test

Condensation atmosphere  
with constant humidity  
(ISO 6270-2)

Substrate: smooth steel  
DFT: 80  $\mu\text{m}$   
Drying: 7 d ambient

Cross Cut (ISO 2409)

Immediately after  
condensation test



Positive influence on water resistance AC-6

Test formulation: Waterborne Alkyd Anti-corrosive Primer

# Condensation Atmosphere

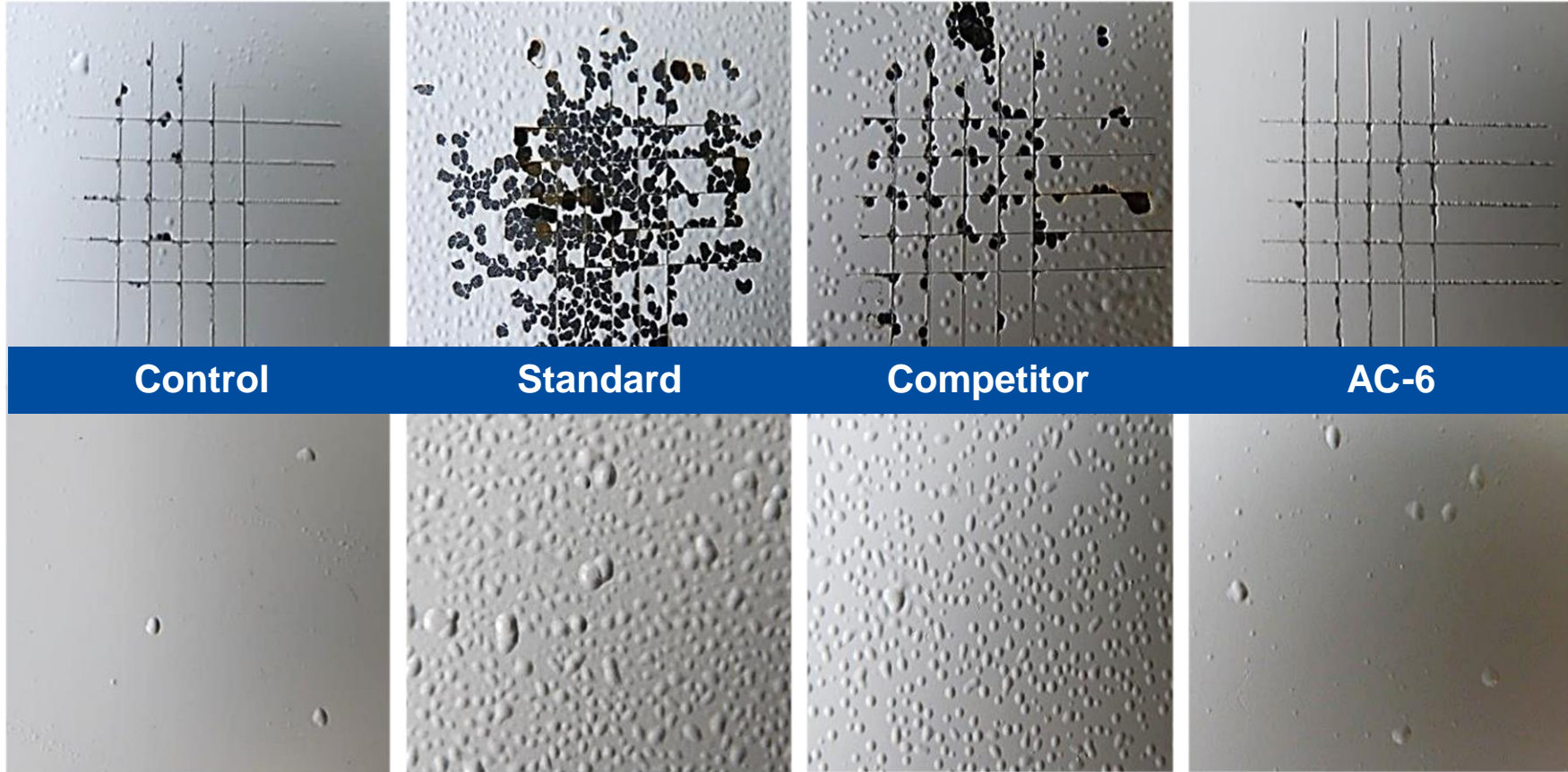
After 480 hr condensation test

Condensation atmosphere  
with constant humidity  
(ISO 6270-2)

Substrate: smooth steel  
DFT: 80 µm  
Drying: 7 d ambient

Cross Cut  
(ISO 2409)

Immediately after  
condensation test



No negative influence on water resistance for AC-6

Test formulation: Waterborne 2-pack Epoxy Primer

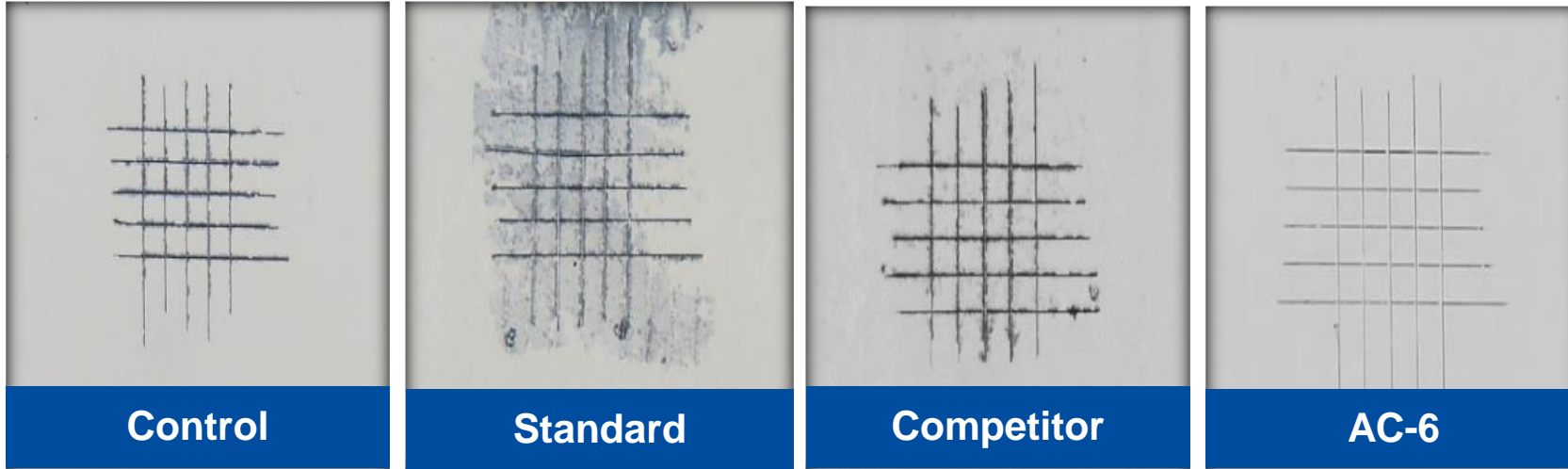
# Early Water Resistance

Early water resistance:

Water load for 24 h after 24 h drying at ambient conditions

→ Cross cut according to ISO 2409

Test formulation: Waterborne Alkyd Anticorrosive Primer



Positive influence on early water resistance

Test formulation: Waterborne Acrylic Primer



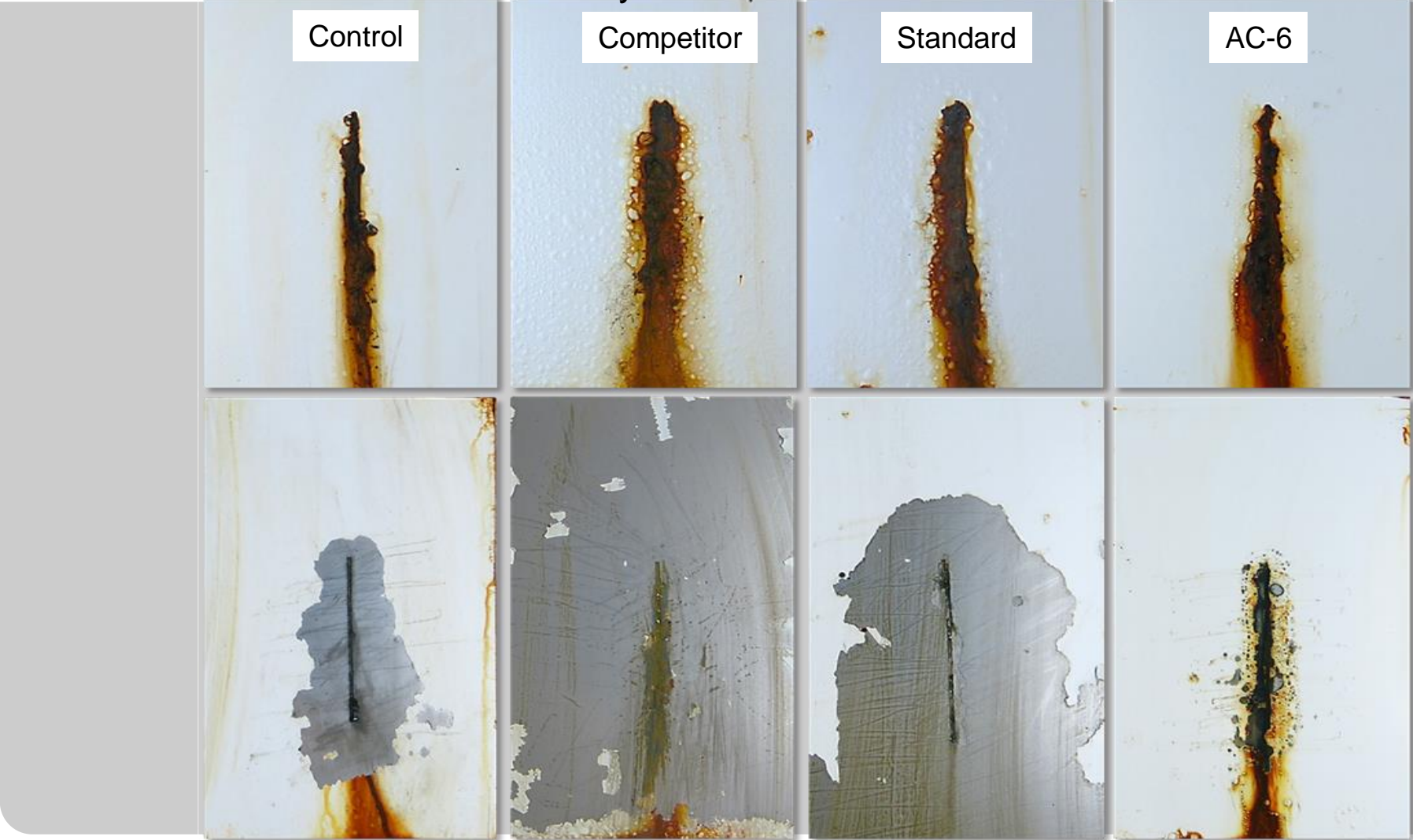
# No Negative Influence on Salt Spray Resistance

Test formulation: Waterborne acrylic DTM

Corrosion tests in artificial atmospheres – Salt spray tests (ISO 9227:2006)

Test formulation: Water-borne acrylic DTM

Substrate: smooth steel  
DFT: 80 µm  
Drying: 7 d ambient  
Duration: 720 h





# Neutral Salt Spray Test

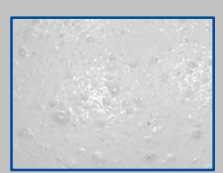
No Negative Influence on Salt Spray Resistance and Adhesion

Corrosion tests in artificial atmospheres – Salt spray tests (ISO 9227:2006)

Test formulation: Water-borne acrylic DTM coat

Substrate: smooth steel  
DFT: 80 µm  
Drying: 7 d ambient  
Duration: 720 h

Gloss measurement at 60°



Test formulation: Waterborne acrylic DTM

No rust, no blisters, minimal delamination or corrosion creep with AC-6

→ insufficient dispersion without w/d additive

# Neutral Salt Spray Test

## Positive Influence on Adhesion after Neutral Salt Spray Test

Corrosion tests in artificial atmospheres –  
Salt spray tests  
(ISO 9227:2006)

Test formulation:  
Baking enamel acrylate /  
melamine

Substrate: smooth steel  
DFT: 60 µm  
Drying: 20 min. ambient  
25 Min. 140°C  
Further 2 d  
ambient  
Duration: 240 h



# Impact on Stain Resistance in Acrylic Emulsion I

**Test system:**

Resin-free aqueous pigment dispersion (slurry 70% pigment load) & 3.5% additive (solids on pigment)

**Letdown system:**

Water-borne acrylic emulsion

**Application:**

Doctor blade onto glass panel  
100µm wet film thickness

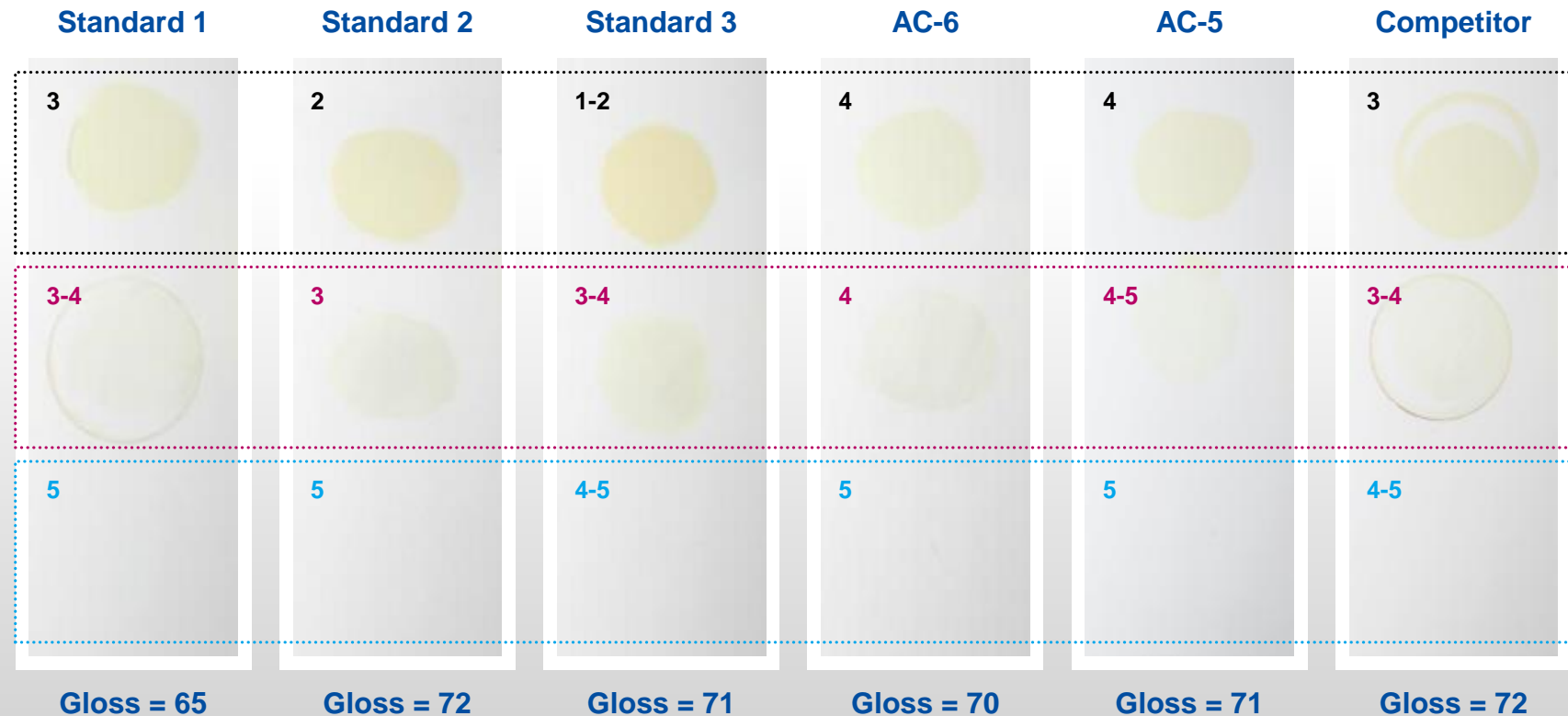
**Drying conditions:**

Room temperature, 1 week

**Test procedure:**

Stain resistance test in accordance with DIN 68861-1 (DIN EN 12720).

Gloss measurement at 60°



  Coffee; 16 hours  
   Red wine; 16 hours  
   Water; 16 hours

5 = excellent  
1 = not acceptable

# Impact on Stain Resistance in Acrylic Emulsion II

**Test system:**

Resin-free aqueous pigment dispersion (slurry 70% pigment load) & 3.5% additive (solids on pigment)

**Letdown system:**

Water-borne acrylic emulsion

**Application:**

Doctor blade onto glass panel  
100µm wet film thickness

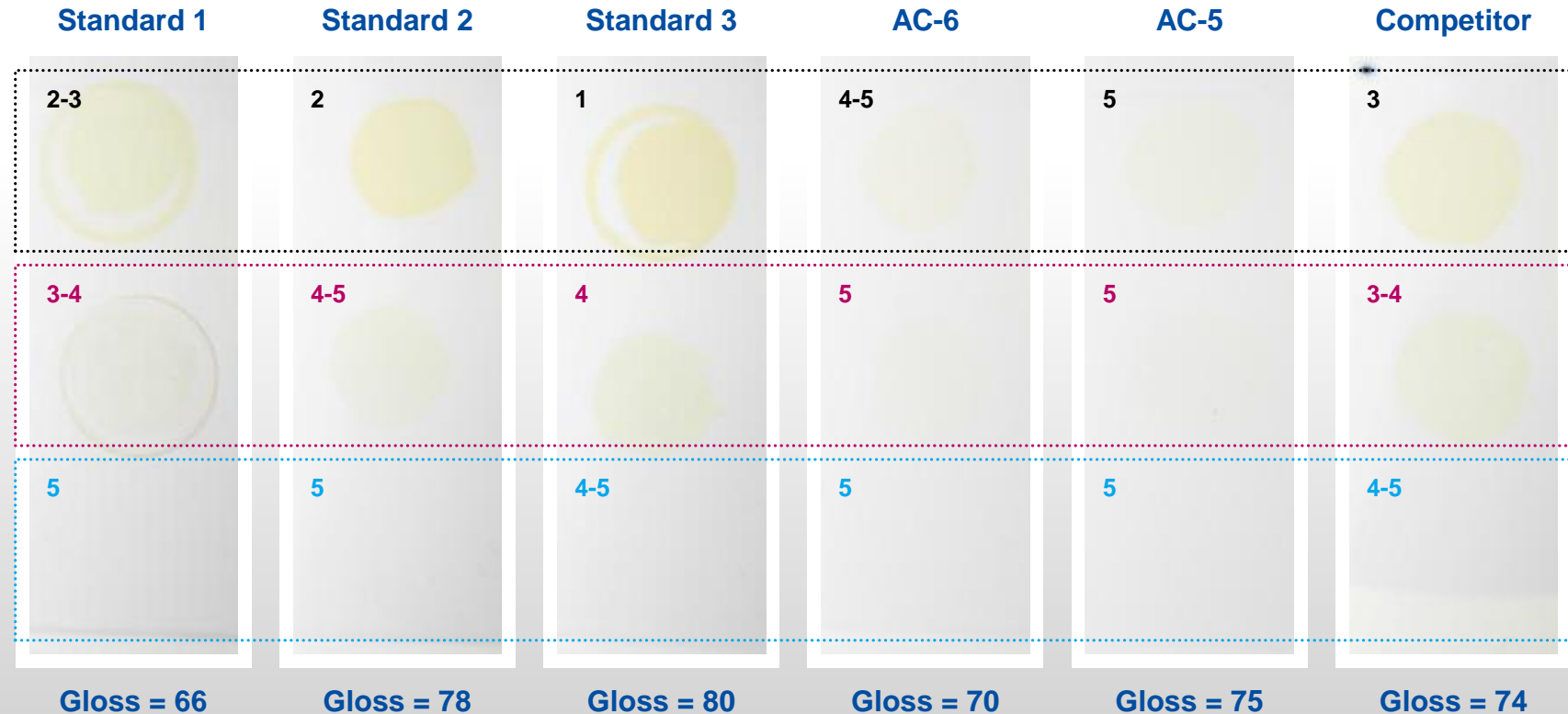
**Drying conditions:**

Room temperature, 1 week

**Test procedure:**

Stain resistance test in accordance with DIN 68861-1 (DIN EN 12720).

Gloss measurement at 60°



☐ Coffee; 16 hours    ☐ Red wine; 16 hours    ☐ Water; 16 hours

5 = excellent  
1 = not acceptable

# Impact of Use Level on Stain Resistance

**Test system:**

Resin-free aqueous pigment dispersion (slurry 70% pigment load) and **2.0%** as well as **3.5%** additive (solids on pigment)

**Letdown system:**

Water-borne acrylic emulsion

**Application:**

Doctor blade onto glass panel  
100µm wet film thickness

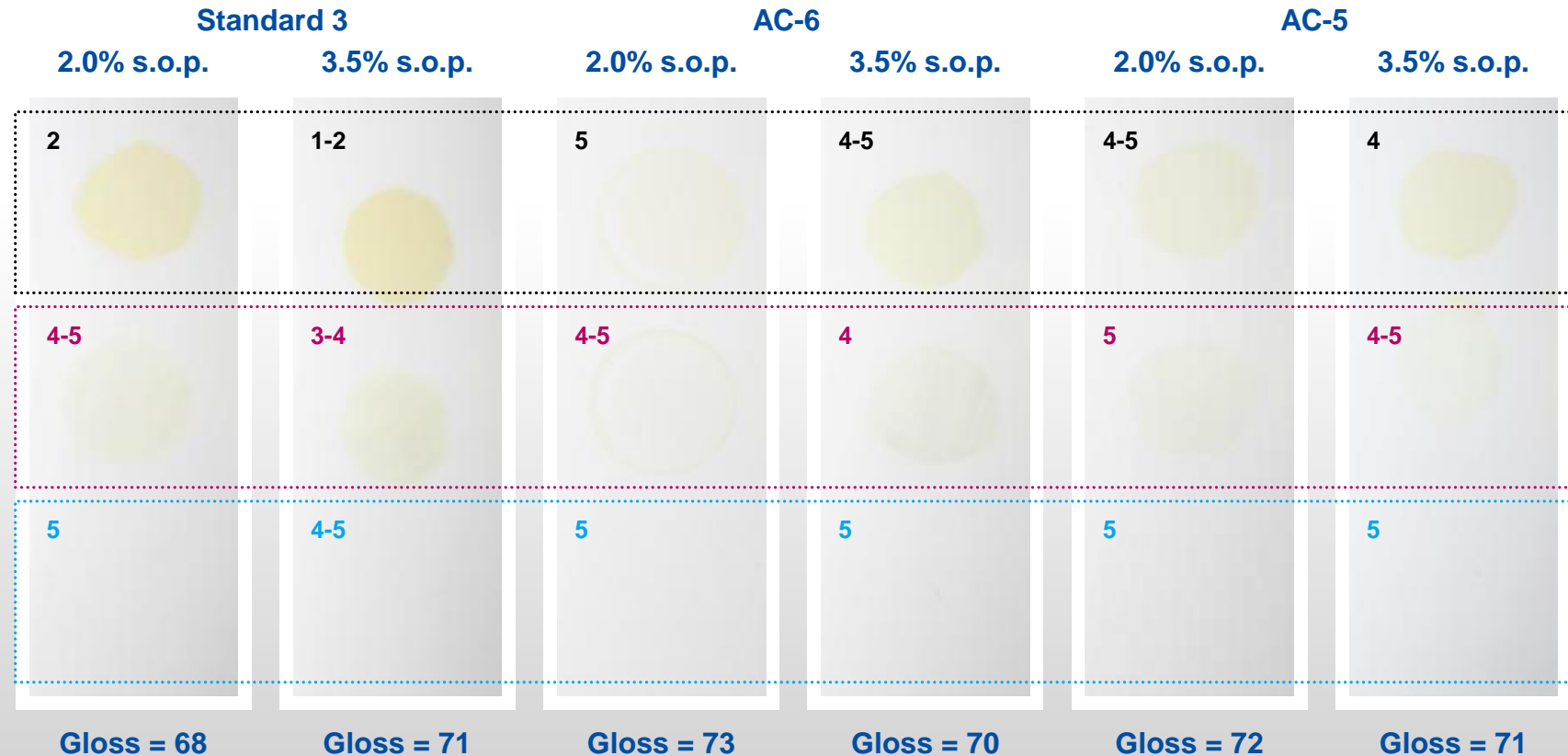
**Drying conditions:**

Room temperature, 1 week

**Test procedure:**

Stain resistance test in accordance with DIN 68861-1 (DIN EN 12720).

Gloss measurement at 60°



☐ Coffee; 16 hours    ☐ Red wine; 16 hours    ☐ Water; 16 hours

5 = excellent  
1 = not acceptable

# Impact on Stain Resistance in Hybrid System

**Test system:**

Resin-free aqueous pigment dispersion (slurry 70% pigment load) & 3.5% additive (solids on pigment)

**Letdown system:**

Water-borne urethane-acrylic

**Application:**

Doctor blade onto glass panel  
100µm wet film thickness

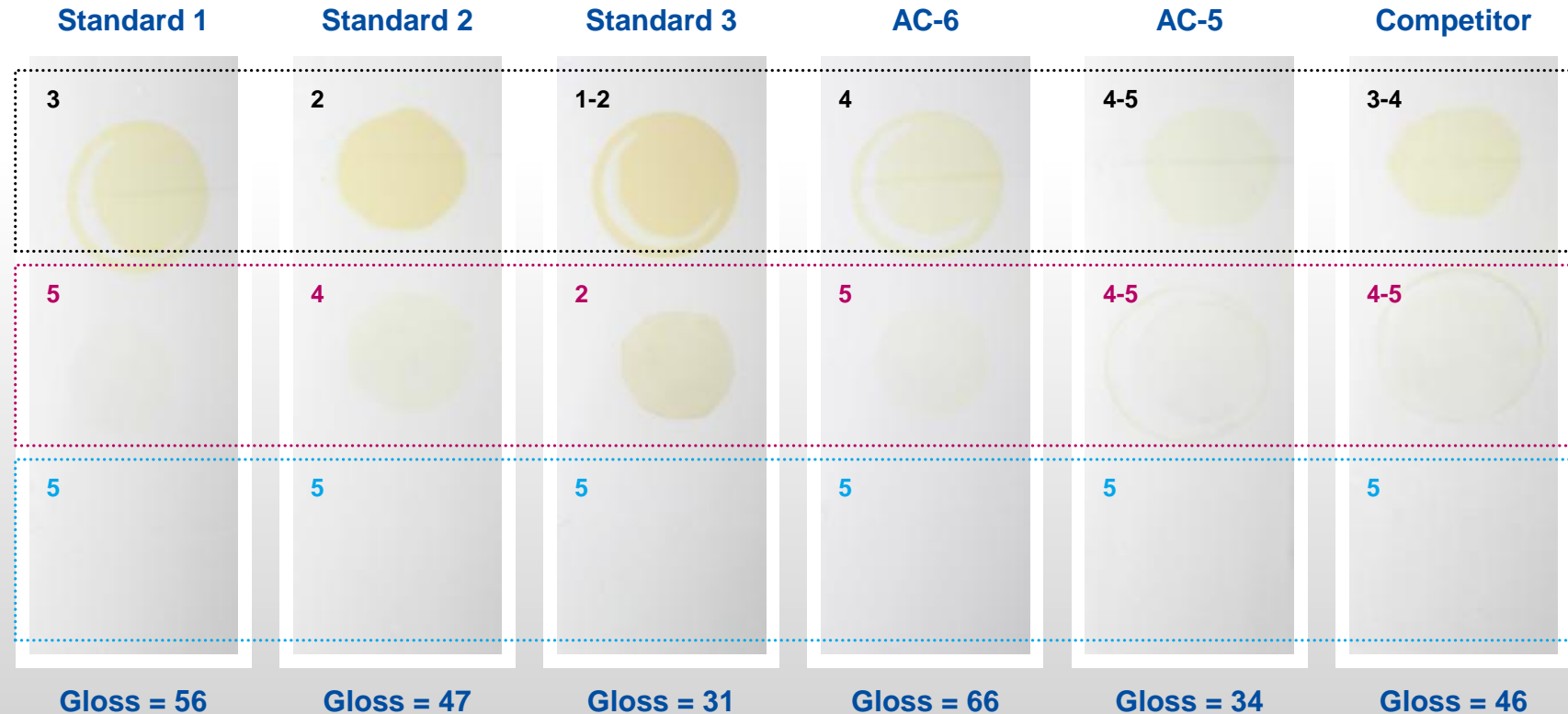
**Drying conditions:**

Room temperature, 1 week

**Test procedure:**

Stain resistance test in accordance with DIN 68861-1 (DIN EN 12720).

Gloss measurement at 60°



  Coffee; 16 hours  
   Red wine; 16 hours  
   Water; 16 hours

5 = excellent  
1 = not acceptable

# DISPERBYK-2080 & DISPERBYK-2081

## Applications



### DISPERBYK-2080

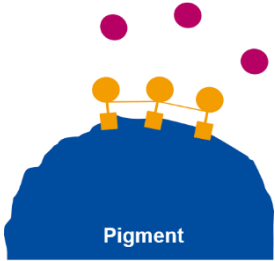
Marine & Protective Coatings	Wood & Furniture Coatings	Decorative Coatings	General Industrial Coatings	Automotive Coatings
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### DISPERBYK-2081

Marine & Protective Coatings	Wood & Furniture Coatings	Decorative Coatings	General Industrial Coatings	Automotive Coatings
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■ highly recommended   ■ recommended

# Summary



**Good wetting and dispersing properties with excellent viscosity reduction (TiO<sub>2</sub>, inorganic, anticorrosive pigments, fillers, organic limited)**

**Especially developed for:**

- Wood and furniture coatings
- Anticorrosive primers and DTM coats

**Less hydrophilicity in the cured paint result in:**

- Improved corrosion resistance
- Improved water & early water resistance
- Improved stain resistance

**Positive side effects**

- Gloss retention
- Improved adhesion

**Recommended for water-borne acrylics, hybrids, alkyds and epoxies**



# Conclusions

- Despite relatively low use levels in the paint formulation and the cured films, wetting and dispersing additives can have significant influence on different paint parameters such as corrosion resistance, water pickup, and early water resistance.
- Wetting and dispersing additives should not be picked solely on their ability to reduce paint viscosity. The pigment stabilization properties as well as their impact on film and barrier properties including corrosion and water resistance must factor into the equation.
- Recent developments are allowing waterborne systems to significantly improve their overall corrosion resistance performance.
  - Use the right additive at the correct use level



Thank you  
for your attention!