RECOMMENDED OVERCOATING INTERVALS		
TEMPERATURES	**PRIMING** Gelshield 200 Coat-On-Coat	**FIRST COATING OF ANTIFOULING**
5°C	10 – 6	10 – 24
15°C	5 – 6	5 – 9
23°C	3 – 6	3 – 7
35°C	2 – 6	2 – 5
NUMBER OF COATS	**5/6**	**1**

KEY: Hours Months

HOW TO PROTECT AGAINST OSMOSIS (BLISTERS)

Protection is always better than cure and it really does make sense to protect a new boat as well as an older craft. To achieve this protection it is necessary to sheath the hull with a water barrier to seal the surface. This is done over the existing gelcoat. There is no better time to apply an anti-osmosis system than when the boat has not yet been launched. Some boat builders now offer Gelshield treatment from International as part of their production process, so it is worth finding out if this is the case. However, it must be stressed that protective systems cannot stop osmosis once it has started, or prevent it from occurring in poorly constructed hulls. It is important that a full check is undertaken before starting.

OSMOSIS PROTECTION SCHEME

STAGE	PRODUCT		GRP	WORK TIME*	OVERCOATING TIME**	
CLEAN	Super Cleaner		YES	1		
ABRADE			180 grade	2–4		
PRIMER	Gelshield 200	VC® Tar2	1	1	5	3
FILLER	Watertite (if needed)		YES		6	
PRIMER	Gelshield 200	VC® Tar2	3/4	1	5	3
ANTIFOULING TIE-COAT	Gelshield 200		1	1	5	See product label
ANTIFOULING	International Antifouling	VC® Antifouling	2–3	1	See product label	
		TOTAL PROJECT TIME:		2 WEEKENDS		

KEY: No.of coats Minutes Hours ∅ Do not use for this purpose

* Average time to apply one coat to average sized boat of 8m/25 feet.
** Minimum wait time between coats or between overcoating with the next step in the system, at a temperature of 15°C.
Please consult product data sheets (available from International yachtpaint.com) for overcoating times at different temperatures.
Data sheets may also be viewed via our website yachtpaint.com.

Your best line of defence against osmosis

SOLUTION CHOICES / COMMON PROBLEMS	ANTI-OSMOSIS PRIMER	ASSOCIATED OSMOSIS SYSTEM PRODUCTS	
	 **GELSHIELD 200** Epoxy primer for osmosis protection	 **GELSHIELD PLUS** High build solventless epoxy for osmosis treatment	 **WATERTITE EPOXY FILLER** Quick drying epoxy filler for above and below waterline
PROTECTING NEW/USED HULL *(GOOD CONDITION)* FROM OSMOSIS	YES	NO	NO
REPAIR OF GRP HULL DAMAGED BY OSMOSIS*	YES***	YES**	YES

* **Osmosis treatment and repair should be carried out only by a qualified professional** – contact the International helpline for further information

** Not to be used direct to Gelcoat. If solvent free system is required on gelcoat, apply 1 coat of Epiglass before application of Gelshield Plus.

*** Only in conjunction with Gelshield Plus Solventless Epoxy

IF THE BOTTOM IS NEW OR UNPAINTED

1	Scrub the surface thoroughly with Super Cleaner using a stiff brush. Flush with fresh water to remove any residue and allow surface to dry.
2	Inspect the hull for signs of damage or cracking and repair any defects with Watertite Epoxy Filler. Any small areas should also be filled with Watertite Epoxy Filler. Larger areas should be patch primed with Gelshield Plus Solventless Epoxy. In the event of more extensive damage being found, make sure that the water has not already entered the laminate.
3	Sand the gelcoat thoroughly using 180 grit sandpaper, then remove the sanding residue using Super Cleaner.
4	Mix three parts Gelshield 200 base to one part Gelshield 200 curing agent, by volume. Mix only what can be used in five hours. Apply coats of Gelshield 200 following the overcoating intervals in the chart on page 39. Gelshield 200 is available in two colours for ease of overcoating. Apply five to six coats (minimum thickness 250 microns). Finally apply International antifouling paint following the overcoating intervals listed on page 39.

IF THE BOTTOM HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY PAINTED, COMMENCE WITH STEP 2.

IMPORTANT: THE APPLICATION OF THE GELSHIELD PROTECTION SYSTEM COULD PROTECT AGAINST SERIOUS AND COSTLY STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS IN THE LATER LIFE OF YOUR HULL.