

# Some Useful Tips

## Application technique

The correct attitude of the spray fan is always to maintain the fan angle at right angles to the plane of work. Any deflection, either horizontally or vertically produces at one side a thinner application, but loads the other side with an overthickness, both unsightly and likely to run. The correct technique is with the gun at right angles and always parallel to the work face with the gun travelling at the speed that the spray fan slightly undercovers the surface. The return spray, also parallel, overlays by 50% thus, stroke by stroke, attaining full attractive coverage of the surface.

This sounds complex but is actually easy to do. However, it is not easy to correct those operators that persist spraying with a loose 'wristy' action. Short of breaking their arm and applying a plaster cast, this remains a difficult habit to correct. Left handed people rarely have this problem, possibly because they are already living in a largely right handed world and are more receptive to adaptation.

## Pressure Adjustment

Airless pumps have a fluid pressure adjustment and the ideal situation is to have selected the best tip for the material being sprayed and adjusted the pressure to properly atomise the spray flow. Because the spray tip opening is elliptical, too little pressure prevents full atomisation and a spray pattern is produced with tails. The pressure should increase until the fan forms without any tails and thereafter increased by another 10%.

This represents ideal conditions and allows for line pressure drops, changes from climbing scaffolds and some latitude for viscosity changes mix to mix. The critical statement - 'atomise' - the lowest pressure necessary to atomise the material.