

AMERICAN PAINTING CONTRACTOR®

Ask the **Experts**

Caulks and Sealants

What technologies are being developed in caulks and sealants that will help increase efficiency on the job site?

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Greater efficiency for end users is the biggest consideration when it comes to product development and innovation in caulks and sealants. You need to maximize your time on the job site and eliminate the need for callbacks in order to grow business and maintain a valuable

reputation. To achieve this, it's important to understand why the products that go into your work are as important as the finished project, and it starts with the technologies found in caulks and sealants.

Some advanced high-performance sealant formulas on the market can be applied in all weather and subzero temperature applications, eliminating delays, translating to project cost savings. They combine permanent flexibility and durability with the characteristics you find most important with premium sealants: superior paintability, no cracking or shrinking, and a waterproof seal.

Elastomeric technology can be found in acrylic latex-formulated sealants to provide a number of benefits to the paint professional. First, just like the name sounds, elastomeric caulks and sealants provide superior flexibility and durability, some withstanding up to 50 percent total joint movement without cracking. Most elastomeric sealants can also be used for all-purpose indoor and outdoor applications, so you avoid the need to purchase two different caulks for interior and exterior.

Now, manufacturers are even incorporating time-saving innovations into caulks and sealants. For example, some caulks are ready to paint 40 minutes after application, with no worries about the paint cracking. Other advanced sealants on the market today allow you to caulk and expose to water in just three hours without the fear of the bead of caulk washing out. This means time saved, as there is no need to wait 24 to 36 hours as other caulks or sealants may require.

It's important to note that caulks and sealants featuring these types of technologies do not necessarily have the biggest price tag in the caulk aisle. Next time you have to choose, consider the advantages of technologically advanced, time-saving caulks and sealants. APC

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