



COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

1100 Smith Marietta Parkway Marietta, GA 30060-2896 Tel: 770-528-7234 Fax 770-528-7134 Web site: <u>www.spsu.edu</u>

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TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I write this letter in support of Insultec paint. I am currently Dean of School of Engineering Technology and Management at Southern Polytechnic State University in Atlanta. Prior to this I was professor of Tropical Architecture at James Cook University in Townsville, Queensland, and Director of The Australian Institute of Tropical Architecture from 1993 until September 1, 2000. I still hold a position as Adjunct Professor in Tropical Architecture at James Cook University.

As the only research institute into tropical architecture technologies, The Australian Institute of Tropical Architecture has a strong interest in the performance of various materials in the tropics – particularly in reducing heat transfer into housing and other buildings. This interest included testing materials for their thermal transfer performance.

In 1995 I evaluated the product Insultec Paint. I also spoke to the inventor of the paint, a retired gentleman in New South Wales. I am therefore familiar with Insultec's composition and properties designed to reflect heat from roof surfaces and significantly reduce heat penetration through the roofs into rooms below via the ceiling.

In 1997 I was consultant to the Queensland Department of Education's Cool School Program as part of the team at Macks & Robinson, architects. I was also a member of the cool Schools Advisory committee and much later their Cooler Schools Advisory Committee. As part of that committee I recommended that the Department try heat reflecting pain on school roofs in order to reduce heat transfer into classrooms. Insultec was the first paint to be used. It was applied by Norco Roof Restoration, the North Queensland Insultec agent. Other manufacturers wanted to supply their paints as well, so in 1997, tests were conducted at the Australian Institute of Tropical Architecture on 3 heat reflecting paints, one of which was Insultec.

Although the three paints performed similarly in the tests for heat transfer prevention, the other samples did not last as well as the Insultec, indicating that Insultec's paint membrane is more flexible and durable. Of the three paints tested, only two were able to supply from stock. The other paint used in the program was later found to bubble and had to be removed from several schools and new coats applied.

The Cool Schools, and later Cooler Schools program undertook upgrading of hundreds of schools in Queensland. Norco Roof Restoration estimated they painted approximately 470 school building roofs from Bowen to Torres Strait Islands.

I have heard the praises of Insultec from several delighted customers, one of the most memorable was the Bureau of Meteorology in Mount Isa. The effects in reducing inside heat exceed their expectation and they wrote a letter expressing their gratitude. The Australian Institute of Tropical Architecture lent the Bureau monitoring equipment to document the heat transfer before and after the Insultec paint was applied. There was a significant reduction – to such an extent that the air conditioning was turned off for long periods during the day.

One criticism which is aimed at white paint in Queensland is the high glare problems which it can bring to neighbours who look down on a white roof or face a white wall. Despite this, white is the most effective colour to use to reflect heat from surfaces. Insultec is not a glossy finish paint. It has a matt finish which helps reduce the problem of glare.

Insultec is a long proven paint, which provides one of the most economical and effective control measure for reducing heat in buildings in the tropics and other warm climates. It is particularly successful for use on existing buildings when insulation cannot be retrofitted. I have measured the temperature of metal roofing with dark green coloured finish in Queensland tropics, at over 100 C. White Insultec can reduce this temperature by up to 40C.

I would be pleased to provide additional information.

Yours sincerely,

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Dr. Richard Aynsley, Dean, School of Engineering Technology and Management Southern Polytechnic State University Marietta Georgia 30060-2896 UNITED STATES.

Email: <u>raynsley@spsu.edu</u> Facsimile 1 770 528 7134