

Mid-hinged Columns

Painting On Site

Painting of mid hinged inverting columns is different in principle from the painting of standard columns, and is much easier to undertake in our factory rather than to attempt to complete on site.

This is due to the inside area of the curved counterbalance arm and also the mating formed area of the lower shaft both needing to be painted, which cannot be done when the shaft is in the closed position.

Whichever paint system is used on site, it is highly likely that there will be a drying time in excess of 48 hours, and even this is dependant upon weather conditions and air temperature. Even when the paint may feel dry to the touch, it is often still tacky below the surface and by closing the counter balance arm too soon, there is a chance the parts could stick together. This means the shaft will need to be in the lowered or semi lowered position and be tied off for the entire time the paint is drying.

For this reason, we would recommend that if painting is required, this is undertaken in our paint shop, and not on site. There may be areas of paint that are damaged during installation, but these will be relatively easy to touch up once installation is complete.

Paint Specification

We currently offer Sika Icosit paint on all galvanised surfaces. This is a system we have successfully used for a number of years, and has excellent aesthetic and anti corrosion properties.

It is a one coat polyurethane, low VOC, low solvent, high gloss compliant Duplex system for direct application, bonding with the structure at a microscopic level.

One coat application to structural steel, Marine and offshore corrosion protection, and protection against corrosion of bridges, pipelines etc...

Low VOC, Low solvent, environmentally friendly and exceptional UV resistance.

Approximate typical film thickness per coat 110-130 microns dry and 165-195 microns wet.

The paint manufacturer has also been successfully using this method for the last 10-15 years.

Maintenance

The above paint system has been designed to ensure trouble free application and maximum life to first maintenance. This system has been independently accredited to the relevant ISO 12944 Part 5 using ISO 6270, and we believe that under normal conditions, first maintenance will not usually be required for a minimum of 15 years.

When maintenance and re-painting is eventually required, we would recommend that the column be painted by lowering the top section to the fully down position, and painting this top part of the shaft with a brush or roller from the lantern down to the hinge position. It may be appropriate to fit this brush or roller to an extended handle if required.

Do not paint the inside face of the curved counter balance arm as this could stick to the shaft part of the base section once the column is in it's raised position. Put the column back to it's fully raised position, and it should now be possible to paint the base section and also the shaft section up to the joint area.

This should enable excellent paint coverage and ease of maintenance without the use of ladders or vehicles.