Paint Markers for Metal Fabrication by John Faulkner

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Steel Tip Paint Markers

Steel tip paint markers are available in three different styles: small plastic bottles such as the Ball Point Paint Bottle from Markal Corporation, collapsible tube steel tip markers from Markal and Nissen Company, and the Texpen or Dalo markers available from ITW Dykem. Steel tip markers are ideal for writing on rough metal surfaces such as metal and rusted metal. Paint application is controlled by depressing the steel tip similar to a ball point pen.

Ball Point Paint Bottles

Ball Point Paint Bottles from Markal are work well on vertical applications. The tube must be squeezed and the tip depressed at the same time for paint to flow. The stainless steel tips are durable, the paint is very permanent, and the plastic bottles are very durable and ideal for storing in tool boxes. Paints come in seven colors and one tip size.

Collapsible Tube Markers

Collapsible aluminum tube markers are available from Markal and Nissen companies. Collapsible tubes are available in three different tip diameters and in the case of Makal, low chloride. Tubes must be squeezed and the tips depressed simultaneously to apply paint. The tubes are a little inconvenient to use and you tend to leave a lot of unused paint in the tube.

Texpen and Dalo Style Markers

The Texpen and Dalo style markers employ an aluminum barrel shaped like a marking pen, steel tips in fine, medium, or broad points, and a pump that allows users to pressurize the barrel. Pressurizing the barrel allows user to apply a constant flow of paint in any position-even overhead-without simultaneously squeezing a bottle or tube. The Texpen package solved several problems for users when it was introduced and patented by Marktex Corporation and quickly became the steel tip marker of choice.

Other Considerations

Low chloride or high purity is a popular option for steel tip markers and applications in the welding trade. Low chloride markers come with factory certification by batch number and are used for marking stainless steel, nuclear applications, aircraft parts, and electrical components. High temperature paints is another popular option with paints capable of withstanding ups to 2200 degrees F.

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