



## VITREX (PTY) LTD

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# VITRAFLEX CLOAKROOM CUBICLES

## TECHNICAL NOTES

### Vitreous Enamelled Steel Surface – vs – Melamine / Formica Surfaces in High Traffic Areas

- a. The Vitraflex system is a durable, versatile and flexible cubicle system that offers maximum space utilization and can accommodate an unlimited range of layouts and applications: toilet cubicles, shower cubicles, change room cubicles with benches, urinal screens, special facilities for nursery schools and for the disabled.
- b. The Vitraflex system is available in a variety of finishes and in a large range of standard colours.
- c. All our cubicles are supplied with standard ironmongery consisting of indicator bolt, keep, coat hook cum door stop, door hinges and a single toilet roll holder.
- d. Vitraflex modular cubicle systems are supported by full technical assistance, in house design and drawing facilities and a professional installation. All our cubicle systems are supplied with the necessary fixing components.
- e. The chemical fusion of an inorganic coating consisting of glass, oxides and various minerals to a steel base at temperatures of around 820 °C creates a Vitreous Enamelled Steel surface. The surface exhibits specific properties that make it the ideal choice in high traffic, hard wearing areas that may be subjected to the possibility of vandalism:
  - i. **Extreme surface hardness** - The surface hardness is very similar to that of glass. On the MOH scale vitreous enamel has a rating of approximately 5 to 6. On the same scale marble has a rating of 3, quartz of 8 and diamonds of 10. This property allows the surface to resist mechanical abrasion and prevent scratching, either accidental or intentional.
  - ii. **Resistance to chemicals** - Influences such as those produced by most of the available solvents, acids and alkalis do not affect the surface or the finish.

Member of the Institute of Vitreous Enamellers (IVE)



#### Directors

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Graffiti applied by means of markers and pens can easily be cleaned off with the use of an appropriate detergent and water.

- iii. **Resistance to corrosion** - Because there is no finite boundary layer between the vitreous enamel and the steel base, the structural integrity of the steel is maintained and any potential damage to the finish is avoided.
- iv. **Inhibition of bacterial growth** - Independent studies have shown that due to the absence of pores, this surface eliminates the absorption of dirt and grease, reduces the presence and growth of bacteria and therefore creates a more hygienic environment.
- v. **Colour fastness** - The resulting colours are unique in appearance, fade proof and resistant to ultra violet light. A large range of standard colours is complemented by the possibility of creating special colours for specific applications. The possibility also exists of permanently incorporating designs into the surface.
- f. The alternative surfaces of Melamine (Low Pressure Density Laminate) or Formica (High Pressure Density Laminate) are not an equal surface to Vitreous Enamelled Steel, in terms of material construction or in terms of properties and performance.
- g. Although the Melamine or Formica options may provide for a more economical alternative, the use of Melamine or Formica faced chipboard as the finished surface of toilet cubicles is not suitable for high traffic, hard wearing areas that may be subjected to the possibility of vandalism and are not suitable for any application in wet areas.
- h. Please also refer to the Vitrex table of Recommended Finishes for various project applications.