A request for an Interpretation in accordance with Regulation 10.12.1(a) was received from the International Formula 18 Class Association.

The following interpretation has been made in accordance with Regulation 10.12.1(d) on the 17th February 2012 and is effective until the 31st December 2012 or until the next edition of the class rules whichever is sooner.

Question 1:
In reference to class rule D.2.3(a) "Routine maintenance such as painting and polishing is permitted without re-measurement and re-certification" - Does this rule allow new boats to be supplied with a painted finish?

Answer 1:
NO.

Question 2:
In reference to class rule D.3.1(a) "The hull shells shall be built from polyester or vinylester resin, glass fibres... Every material that is not expressly permitted is prohibited." - Does this mean that boats supplied from manufacturers should have a gelcoat finish?

Answer 2:
NO.

Comments:

Maintenance is the process of keeping something in good condition; it is not considered part of the build process.

Gel coat is not specifically referred to under Class Rule D.3.1(a); the F18 class rules are closed class rules.

It is accepted that the presentation of the class rules in this area is unclear and the International Sailing Federation is working with the F18 Class Association on a number of potential class rule changes.