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**Craig Williams**

Director of Marketing - VR, Global OEM & Services

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TO: SCRS (Society of Collision Repair Specialists)

The question has come up regarding our position on the necessity of blending basecoat to achieve an acceptable color match.

This necessity to blend is driven by the increasingly complex color palette being used by the auto manufacturers and an increased awareness on the consumer level of color match issues. The process of blending the basecoat to achieve a consistently customer-pleasing color match is nearly always necessary. Even colors like solid black exhibit such large variations from the OEM's that blending the adjacent panel is often necessary to assure complete customer satisfaction.

During our color adjustment classes we encourage our customers to utilize all the tools available to achieve the very best color alternative. Even then, our recommendation is to blend to achieve the most cost efficient, customer pleasing repair.

Although most colors are deemed "blendable match", there are colors that may require tinting. When tinting is indicated, our recommendation is to "tint to a blendable match". That means that in some situations, the fastest, easiest way to achieve an acceptable match might be to tint and then blend into an adjacent panel.

Sincerely,

Craig Williams  
Director of Marketing - VR, Global OEM & Services