In 1927, the German Reichs-Ausschuß für Lieferbedingungen und Gutesicherung (Imperial Commission for Delivery Terms and Quality Assurance) invented a collection of 40 colors under the name of “RAL 840”. Prior to that date manufacturers and customers had to exchange samples to describe a tint, whereas from then on they would rely on numbers.

In the 1930s, the numbers were changed uniformly to four digits and the collection was renamed to “RAL 840 R” (R for revised). With tints constantly added to the collection, it was revised again in 1961 and changed to “RAL 840-HR” which consists of 210 colors and is in use to this day. In the 1960s, the colors were given supplemental names to avoid confusion in case of transposed digits.

As “RAL 840-HR” covered only matte paint the 1980s saw the invention of “RAL 841-Gt.” for glossy surfaces, limited to 193 colors. A main criterion for colors in the RAL Classic collection is to be of “paramount interest”. Therefore most of the colors in it are used on warning and traffic signs or are dedicated to government agencies and public services (for example: RAL 1004 - Swiss Postal Service, RAL 1021 - Austrian Postal Service, RAL 1032 - German Postal Service). The first digit relates to the shade of the color.

Today the TCI TruRAL deck is meant to be a source of inspiration and color guide on a series of colors readily available in easy to handle 25 pounds containers. The TruRAL products are matched to the RAL MASTER standards giving the consumer confidence that the TruRAL is the closest match to the RAL color system. All TruRALS are formulated as Super Durable products that use a fast low-energy cure system to reduce energy cost.

These TGIC Products Give You the Best of All Worlds

- Robust application characteristics enhance first pass transfer efficiency
- Can be used for indoor and outdoor applications
- Super durable chemistry provides exceptional UV protection
- Gloss range between 85-99%
- Great re-coat ability offering excellent intercoat adhesion
- All TruRAL colors meet AAMA 2603 specifications, 55 colors meet AAMA 2604 (refer to the RAL index for a full list of these offerings)

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