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**Electronic Supplementary Information** 

A clear coat from a water soluble precursor: a bioinspired paint concept

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- Figure S1.  $^{1}$ H NMR spectra of poly(methyl-DAA-AEMA) in a mixture of MeOD/  $D_{2}$ O. The cross symbol 'x' in the spectra indicates the protons attributed to MeOD
- Figure S2. UV-vis spectra of DAA-p in Milli-Q water (red line) and P(DAA-co-AEMA) in 0.1 M HCl aqueous solution (black line)
- Figure S3. Pictures of P(DAA-co-AEMA), prepared at high pH, coated on polystyrene (left) and on stainless steel (right)
- Figure S4. UV-vis spectra of a P(DAA-co-AEMA) film prepared at high pH on a quartz slide at different time points
- Figure S5. Viscosity of PAEMA at different pH values as a function of shear rate

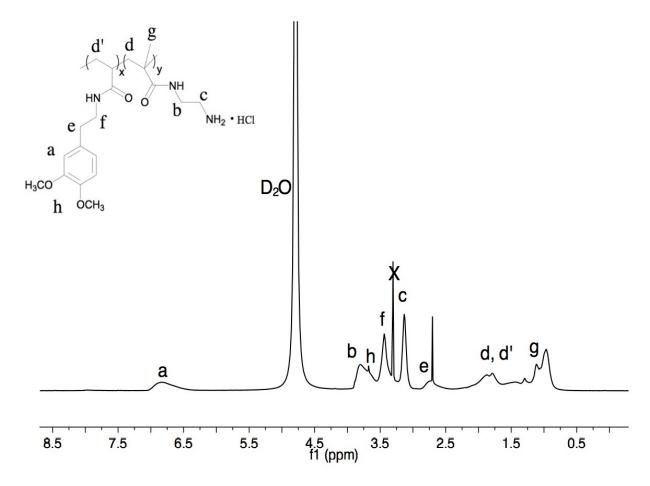


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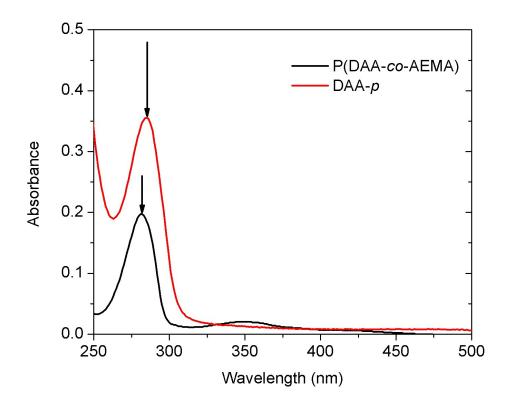


Figure S2. UV-vis spectra of DAA-p in Milli-Q water (red line) and P(DAA-co-AEMA) in 0.1 M HCl aqueous solution (black line)

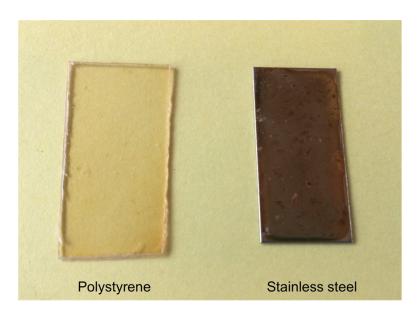


Figure S3. Pictures of P(DAA-co-AEMA), prepared at high pH, coated on polystyrene (left) and on stainless steel (right)

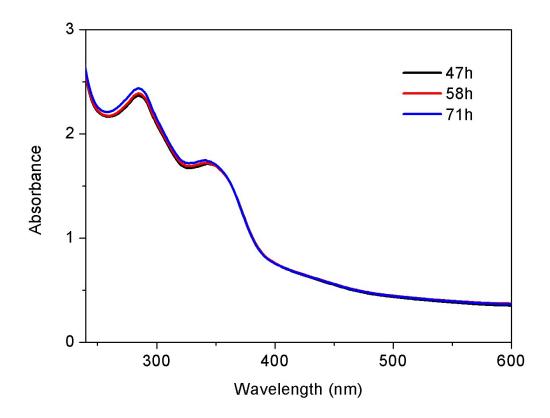


Figure S4. UV-vis spectra of a P(DAA-co-AEMA) film prepared at high pH on a quartz slide at different time points

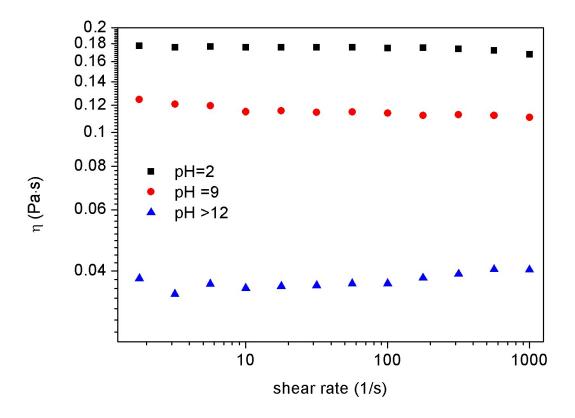


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