

Film Properties and Formulation Considerations for Corrosion Resistance in Styrenated Acrylic Metal Coatings

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Agenda

- Project Background
- Adhesion & Corrosion Protection Mechanisms

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- Literature Review
- Commercial Resin Film Property Study
- Next Generation Development
- Formulation Considerations
- Conclusions

Project Background

Project Mandate

Deliver best in class balanced, low VOC DTM resins

Lower VOC demands result in higher technical complexity in an effort to maintain full balance of properties

Interplay between adhesion and corrosion prompted in depth structure/property investigation



Performance Tradeoffs

Lower T_g (or low VOC plasticizer) to lower VOC reduces hardness and block resistance

Some formulation mitigations available, but not ideal

Fluorosurfactants

Adhesion vs. Corrosion Resistance

~50µm DFT, 12PVC High Gloss, 400hr B117



Adhesion/Corrosion Balance

B117, ~50μm DFT, CRS



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Adhesion to Steel



- Provided sufficient wetting is present, acid/base interactions, ionic interactions and van der Waals forces considered of primary importance¹
- Isoelectric point of steel difficult to pinpoint, but likely around pH ~8-9
- As ammonia evaporates and pH drops, cationic sites arise allowing for electrostatic interactions

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• Mechanical interlocking also significant in blasted substrates

¹Fowkes, F.M., J Polym Sci J Polym Chem Ed, 1984, 22, 547

Corrosion Process - Steel Requires $\mathbf{0}_2$ Water O_2 (CO₂, or other reducible species) Electrolytic pathway $Fe^{2+} + 2OH^{-} \rightarrow Fe(OH)_{2}$ Water $4Fe(OH)_2 + O_2 \rightarrow Fe_2O_3 \bullet xH_2O$ $Fe \longrightarrow Fe^{2+} + 2e^{-}$ **Red Rust** Cathode Cathode Anode $O_2 + 2H_2O + 4e^- \rightarrow 4OH^ O_2 + 4H^+ + 4e^- \rightarrow 2H_2O$ e⁻ e⁻

$Fe^{2+}+2H_2O \rightarrow Fe(OH)_2 + 2H^+$

Possible mechanisms of corrosion prevention

Block water penetration `

Barrier Properties

- O₂ transport inhibition
- Adhesion surface passivation, exclusion of water, etc
- Interference with electrolytic pathway coating resistance

Literature Review

Barrier Properties	 S. Guruviah, JOCCA, 53, 1970, 660; P. Kresse, Pigment Resin Tech, 2(11), 1973, 21 O₂ transport limiting factor in corrosion protection
Impedance	 J. Mayne, <i>Corrosion</i>, 1976, pp15:24-15:37; Bacon, et al, <i>Ind Eng Chem</i>, 40(1), 1948, 161 Films generally too permeable for barrier properties to be important Inhibition of galvanic cell via a high film resistance which impedes electrolyte transport most important factor
Adhesion	 W. Funke, H. Haagen, Ind Eng Chem Prod Res Dev, 17, 1978, 50; E. Parker, H. Gerhart, Ind Eng Chem, 59(8), 1967, 53 – Loss of adhesion leads to onset of corrosion

See appendix for further reading suggestions



Electrolytic Resistance

 Study of 300 coatings showed resistance thresholds of ~10⁸Ohm for the best coatings and at least ~10⁶ Ohm for fair performance

Ind Eng Chem, 40(1), 1948, 161-167

- Coating resistance falls with increasing electrolyte concentration
 Maitland CC, Mayne JEO, Official Digest, Sept 1962
- Inverse study between ion exchange capacity and corrosion resistance of film

Ulfvarson, U and Khullar, M, JOCCA, 54, 604, 1971



Acrylic film as ion exchange system

Study Description

- 21 internal and external styrenated acrylic systems
- Wide variety of performance capabilities, Tg's, MFFTs, etc
- Formulated into single clear formulation adjusted coalescent level for MFFT
- Evaluated in a number of performance tests to develop a film property/corrosion model

Study Design



*Tests in bold will be discussed here, other pieces will be tied into future presentations ** Panels were force ranked on a 1-10 scale for corrosion resistance, 10 being best



Corrosion Resistance B117, CRS (4"6" R-series Q-panel), ~75µm DFT, 66hrs



Corrosion Resistance B117, CRS (4"6" R-series Q-panel), ~75µm DFT, 230hrs



Corrosion Resistance

B117, CRS (4"6" R-series Q-panel), ~75µm DFT, 560hrs



Dry Adhesion

10mil wet drawdown, CRS (4"6" R-series Q-panel)

	Pull-	Corrosion	
Resin	Adhes		
	Standard	rating	
Resin 1	5	272.0	8
Resin 2	0	68.0	1
Resin 3	5	241.3	3
Resin 4	5	231.3	8
Resin 5	5	271.0	7
Resin 6	0	91.5	6
Resin 7	5	188.0	1
Resin 8	3	168.0	6
Resin 9	5	290.5	2
Resin 10	4	224.0	4
Resin 11	4	212.3	2
Resin 12	4	179.7	6
Resin 13	0	1 06.5	5
Resin 14	1	116.0	3
Resin 15	4	200.0	10
Resin 16	4	211.0	7
Resin 17	4	205.0	5
Resin 18	4	177.0	9
Resin 19	4	172.0	8
Resin 20	4	208.3	7
Resin 21	4	213.3	8

Wet Adhesion

10mil wet drawdown, CRS (3"6" R-series Q-panel)

Resins	30 min*	1 hr**	24 hr**	48 hr**	4 day**	1 wk**	2 wk**	Average***
Resin 1	5	5	5	5	5	3	0	4.7
Resin 2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.3
Resin 3	3	4	4	3	3	2	0	3.2
Resin 4	4	5	5	3	0	0	0	2.8
Resin 5	5	5	5	0	1	0	0	2.7
Resin 6	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.5
Resin 7	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	1.7
Resin 8	3	3	4	0	0	0	0	1.7
Resin 9	5	5	0	0	0	0	0	1.7
Resin 10	5	4	5	5	5	0	0	4.0
Resin 11	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	1.5
Resin 12	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	1.8
Resin 13	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0.2
Resin 14	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.3
Resin 15	3	4	5	0	0	0	0	2.0
Resin 16	5	4	0	0	0	0	0	1.5
Resin 17	4	4	5	3	2	0	0	3.0
Resin 18	4	4	4	3	2	0	0	2.8
Resin 19	4	4	3	0	0	0	0	1.8
Resin 20	5	4	5	0	0	0	0	2.3
Resin 21	5	4	3	0	0	0	0	2.0

*adhesion after covering with wet paper towel; **adhesion after immersion in water;

***average through 1 week

Adhesion/Corrosion Correlation



Corrosion Correlations







Impedance Studies



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Next Generation Development

B117, ~50μm DFT, CRS



Market Leading 50g/L DTM



Thin Film Corrosion Resistance

B117, CRS, 300hrs



Impact of P:B or PVC



Corrosion resistance decreases with increasing P/B ratio (reproduced with other resins)

Possible explanations:

- 1. Increased porosity with increasing P/B ratio; liquid water uptake increases
- 2. Interfacial layer around the pigment particles facilitates water migration and increases diffusion

PVC On Liquid Water Uptake





- Increasing PVC increases water uptake¹
- Decreasing particle size increases water uptake¹
 - Related to surface area
- Dispersant/pigment interface identified as coating weak point¹
- Liquid water uptake can also be measured by EIS – related to corrosion resistance
- Acrylic coatings can take months to achieve final barrier properties¹

¹Donkers, PA et al, Proc. of Europ. Coat. Conf. Waterborne Coat., 2013

Resin in Grind

B117, ~50µm DFT, 300hrs, CRS





Importance of Formulation

B117, 1mil DFT, CRS, 500hrs



Clear Formulation

- Resin
- Coalescent
- Wetting agent
- Flash rust inhibitor
- Silicone defoamer
- HEUR thickener

Surfactant Change



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Importance of Formulation

B117, 1mil DFT, CRS, 500hrs



Clear Formulation

- Resin
- Coalescent
- Wetting agent
- Flash rust inhibitor
- Silicone defoamer
- HEUR thickener

Coalescent Change



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Conclusions

- Protective action of coatings on steel is a complex process with disagreement in literature over relative importance of barrier properties, adhesion, and electrochemical impedance
- Experimental observations and more recent studies point towards impedance as primary indicator of corrosion protection in B117 salt fog
- Other film properties may play a role in under different corrosion testing conditions e.g. cyclic prohesion, exterior exposure
- Study of 21 styrenated acrylics showed no correlation between adhesion properties and corrosion resistance
- Adhesion still an important property in real world substrate protection
 - Easily chipped/damaged coatings will leave parts of substrate unprotected
- Future work expands study to include barrier properties and impedance as well as other accelerated testing methods prohesion, QUV, humidity
- Learnings led to development of 50g/L DTM with previously unachieved balance of adhesion and corrosion resistance

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Questions?





Further Reading

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