

Surface Preparation of Aluminum Substrates

Technical Support Procedure TP-9302-18



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To correctly apply coatings on aluminum surfaces and ensure a strengthened bond between the coating and the substrate, which lead to an increase in coating system service life and its overall quality, please follow the guidelines below:

Surfaces that Have Been Previously Painted

- ❖ If any contamination such as grease, oil, etc. is present on the surface, remove them using a suitable thinner or degreasing agent.
- ❖ Any old coatings or contaminants present on the substrate can be removed using Sweep Blasting with very soft abrasive materials. However, please pay attention and care not to damage the surface.
- ❖ Prior to coating application, use compressed air to blast the surface to rid it of any dust and other particles can be removed.

New Unpainted Surfaces

- ❖ Use thinners or degreasing agents to remove grease, oil or other contaminants that may be present on the surface.
- ❖ Power wash the substrate using fresh water to thoroughly rinse the substrate.
- ❖ Prior to coating application, use compressed air to blast and dry the surface to rid it of any dust and other particles can be removed.
- ❖ In order to increase the adhesion of the paint film to the surface of aluminum, it is recommended to apply a thin layer of RTB-1133-R (Two-Component Wash Primer) and a thickness of 20 μm on the surface.
- ❖ After 2 – 3 hours since the application of the Wash Primer, you can begin to apply coatings by following the technical guidelines and recoating intervals stated in the products' technical datasheets.
- ❖ It is very important to observe the ambient conditions during coating application. it is recommended that coating application be completed when the ambient temperature is at least 3°C above the dew point.
- ❖ If the parts being painted are located in seawater, please note that due to high humidity and the formation of dew on the surface during nighttime, it is possible for salt crystals to have formed on the surface during recoating intervals. Therefore, it is recommended to power wash the surface with fresh water prior to applying the next layer of paint.
- ❖ During coating application, as well as when coating application has ended but the coating has not completely dried, please ensure that dust and other contaminants do not settle on painted surfaces.

For more information, please refer to the technical specifications of the products you intend to use.