Guide to Cooling Tower Repair

This product is designed to re-galvanize old, worn galvanized or bare metal surfaces and cannot be used over other coatings. Because of the conditions encountered in cooling towers (confined areas), we recommend only brush application. Brushes and spills can be easily cleaned with standard solvents (paint thinner or Xylol).

Application requires a clean, dry, oil-and-grease-free surface. Estimated coverage is 350 square feet per gallon.

Solvent evaporation is the first stage of curing, the majority taking place in the first 3-4 hours. Vehicle oxidation is the second stage and starts rapidly increasing after 4 hours. This oxidation fills in the pores of the coating. Good ventilation, by using portable fans, is important to maximize the curing time since the manufacturers' recommendations must be severely condensed due to anticipated project time constraints.

It must be stated here that the application conditions and time constraints found on most cooling tower repair jobs are far from conducive to proper ZRC use. Please refer to the ZRC technical brochure for proper use recommendations. The following is offered only as a guide to help achieve the best possible results under the worst possible conditions. It is our opinion, however, that even though conditions are not optimum, ZRC will provide acceptable protection.

APPLICATION STEPS FOR WATER IMMERSION AREAS

- Remove sealing compound from corners. Coating will only provide corrosion protection to bare metal surfaces.
- The surfaces are best prepared by sandblasting to a near-white profile surface. When this is not practical, grinding the surface and wire brushing the rust spots is acceptable, but not as effective as sandblasting.
- 3. Clean and dry all surfaces.

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- 4. Wipe surfaces down with paint thinner for further cleaning and drying, continually changing rags to prevent contamination.
- Use fans to promote drying of prepared surface.
 Dry to the touch does not mean the surface is free of moisture. Surface temperature must be 5 degrees
 F greater than ambient dew point.
- 6. Spot prime red rusted surfaces with ZRC (after removal of all loosely adherent red rust).

For two-day shutdown, brush on coating to 4-6 mil wet-film thickness in one coat.
 For three-day shutdown, brush on two coats at 3-4 mil wet-film thickness each, first coat on Day 1, second coat on Day 2.

PLEASE NOTE: A THICK COAT MAY ENTRAP SOLVENT WHICH MAY INHIBIT PROPER CURE.

- 8. Use box fans to improve drying and curing. In enclosed spaces, have a fan blowing in and out of tower.
- 9. Curing time to recoat or fill tower with water is 16 to 24 hours (absolute minimum).
- 10. For weekend project, returning on the following Monday to refill and restart, allows for increased curing time and is highly recommended.



(800) 831-3275

145 Enterprise Dr., Marshfield, MA 02050 Tel: (781) 319-0400 Fax: (781) 319-0404 Web: www.zrcworldwide.com

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