# **Technology Developments in Protective Coatings**

Michael Donkin May 13<sup>th</sup> 2015







- Protective coatings market
- Key technology drivers
- Examples of New technology
- The future



#### **Protective Coatings market**



## **Technologies in PC**

- Historically alkyds, Epoxies (70%) and Polyurethanes have provided the majority of coatings in PC
  - Alkyds for light duty
  - Epoxies/Polyurethanes for heavy duty

- The market is mature and new technologies take time to develop
  - Specification position
  - Track record is essential, especially for offshore use
- Many products and technologies exist in the market for a number of years

## Key new technology drivers

- 1. Performance
  - Longer lifetime, especially offshore (Norsok/ISO12944)
  - Extended guarantees and Warranties
  - Gloss and colour retention
  - Third party testing
- 2. Productivity
  - Fast cure/Fast return to service
  - Power (electricity) generation
- 3. Environmental and legislation
  - VOC (High solids/Water based)
  - Product Stewardship
    - Heavy metals



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#### **New Technologies**

- A number of <u>new</u> technologies have emerged to meet the key drivers which include :
  - Polysiloxanes
  - Polyaspartics
  - Fluoropolymers



## **1. Performance - Polysiloxanes**

- A new technology for Protective coatings (patent protected)
- First introduced in the mid 90's as a replacement for an epoxy build coat and PU topcoat – 3 coat to a 2 coat system
- <u>Key properties</u>

Step change in durability Low VOC (<250g/litre) Isocyanate free Can be formulated as one or two component coatings Extensive use offshore in harsh environments



## Polysiloxanes

- Polysiloxanes have the bond O-Si-O in the backbone and can be blended into most organic polymer systems
- The higher bond strengths of the Si-O bond (108 K Cal mol-1) compared to the C-C bond strength (83 K Cal mol-1) which confers thermal stability and UV stability, the Si-O bond is already oxidised.
- The Polysiloxane (glass) is transparent to UV and not easily degraded if at all
- Usually blended with organic polymers to give flexibility and good adhesion
- Latest technology is capable of <100g/litre coatings
- The time taken for accelerated testing is more of a challenge!

#### **Accelerated Durability**



## Single pack Polysiloxane

#### New technology for M+R

- Patented AN chemistry
- <275 g/litre
- Very high durability
- Designed for brush/roller application
- Tin and heavy metal free



## Fluoropolymer

#### Key properties

- Very high durability
- Thin film application
  - -30-50 microns
- Buildings and bridges are typical areas of application



### Fluoropolymer

- This chemistry relies on a carbon fluorine bond
- C-F (105 K Cal mol-1) bond is very high energy and very difficult to break with sunlight. It can also strengthen the adjacent C-C (83 K Cal mol-1) bond making the polymer much more UV durable.
- Can be the highest durable topcoat and most resistant to weathering
- Mostly specified in Asia and the US where specific durability standards exist
- Can be supplied as liquid paint or powder

## **Accelerated artificial weathering**

Exposes the coating to an environment, which <u>magnifies</u> the stresses of the natural environment

The stresses are:

- Light. Both energy (wavelength) and irradiance energy
- Temperature
- Humidity

Stresses are normally cyclical



## **EMMAQUA – New technology testing**



#### Emmaqua

- 10 highly reflective specially coated mirrors are focussed onto the specimen target with an intensity of approx 8 suns.
- The device tracks the sun and exposes specimens to the full spectrum of sunlight, making it one of the most realistic accelerated tests available
- The test conditions can be varied to include Arizona or Florida and it also has the facility for a freeze cycle and water spray
- Exposure is quantified in terms of the total light dose of incident light. 300 MJ.m<sup>-2</sup> correlates to one years Florida exposure

#### **EMMAQUA – 8 years Florida equivalent**



## **Ultra Emmaqua**



### Third party test requirements

- Corrosion standards are required by our customers
  - -Norsok
  - -ISO12944
  - -NACE and others
  - These tests are usually cyclic and include UV/Freezing (-15C) and salt spray.
  - -Some tests require -60C and +60C cycling.

### Third party test requirements

- The requirements of the corrosion standards <u>drives</u> the choice of technology
  - -Zinc based primers
  - -Epoxy barrier coats
- Topcoats <u>have</u> to be compatible with these type of products <u>and</u> test regime
- Typical accelerated test times for C5M offshore environments are 6-9 months

## 2. Productivity

Increasing focus on improving productivity

- For example Wind blades/OEM/Pipes
  - -Fast cure technology is Polyaspartic
- Application methods are changing with more acceptance of twin feed/heated twin feed spray
  - -Epoxy ultra high solids
- Tidal wave farms



### **Fast cure Polyaspartics**

#### Key properties

- Fast cure at a range of temperatures  $(0 40^{\circ}C)$
- Good balance of corrosion, aesthetics and physical properties
- Suited for OEM applications
  Good gloss and early hardness
- C3 for DTM and up to C5 for 2/3 coat systems
- Tin free



#### **Polyaspartics**



Aspartic acid ester

Isocyanate

Polyurea

#### **Polyaspartic hardness**

Koenig Hardness at 10C/80%RH



## Polyaspartic

• 2 Hours hard dry and moveable at 25C/60%RH

#### • DTM (150-200 microns)





Polyaspartic chemistry can give a range of dry speeds depending on the blend used.

#### Heated twin feed application



Temperatures of 50-90C have been used with cure times as short as 15 minutes.

## Silicone elastomers and their use in PC

- Marine fouling can cause a number of problems to occur on immersed assets
  - Increase the weight of floating assets
  - Increase hydrodynamic drag on tidal turbine blades
  - Cause difficulties in accessing critical areas of immersed devices for maintenance





# High performance ultra-smooth coatings and their use in marine energy

Amphiphilic fluoropolymer technology (None toxic antifouling)

- Generally marine life has a preference for either hydrophobic or hydrophilic surfaces
- Advantage of amphiphilic technology is it combines characteristics of both types of surface
- Delivers improved water flow and inhibits more marine life than other coatings



#### Silicone elastomers and their use in PC

What does this mean in practice?

- Reducing hydrodynamic drag can help in maintaining the torque of the device and therefore deliver <u>designed power</u> from the unit
- It can reduce maintenance costs by alleviating the need to hire divers to clean the device of marine fouling before maintenance can take place



#### AkzoNobel High performance ultra-smooth coatings and their use in PC

#### A real life example

• A 30 month trial was undertaken at a hydroelectric plant in Brazil. The test was to compare a Fluoropolymer foul release coating with a coal tar





#### Wave & Tidal assets protected by AkzoNobel









## 3. Environmental - VOC

#### VOC legislation

- Continued focus from all regions of the world to reduce VOC's
- Predictions that by 2020 it will be below 250g/litre
- China tax >420g/litre, California <100g/litre
- The technology options are either water based or high solids
  - -Epoxies
  - -Polyaspartic
  - -Polysiloxane
  - -Polyurethane

### Water based - VOC

- Key properties
  - -Low VOC, <100g/litre
  - -Single or two component
  - -Good durability
  - -Easy to apply thin films
  - -Hybrid systems.
  - -Performance equivalent to solvent based
- Drawbacks
  - -Poor drying at low temp/high RH





## **VOC HS Polyurethanes**

Key properties

- Durability
- Flexibility of formulation
- Excellent Mechanical properties
- Adhesion to epoxies
- Track record
- Ability to formulate low VOC alternatives -<250 g/litre new product
  - -Easy application at 50 microns without thinning







## Legislation

- -REACH, K REACH, EPA, NICNAS
- -Akzonobel programme
- -Materials of concern
  - -Isocyanates
  - -Tin
  - -Cobalt
  - -Chromates
  - -Coal tar

#### **Isocyanate free**

- A number of isocyanate free technologies (Interfine 629, Interfine 629HS and Interfine 691)
- Polysiloxanes
- Functional acrylics
  - Patented technology
  - <250g/litre VOC







### The future

• Uncertain!

• <100g/litre? Solvent free?</p>

• Higher durability and lifetimes

• Lower film thickness and lower cost systems

• Functional coatings





