



Bituminous Coatings that Meet Engineering Specifications

Peruse the engineering specifications outlined by the AWWA, AASHTO, ANSI and other similar organizations and you will find many specify the application of “bituminous coatings” when protecting steel or concrete pipes, pipe casings or other structural steel items from corrosion.

However, not just any “bituminous paint” will meet many of the engineering requirements on the books. Many outline very specific requirements ranging from the suitable methods of application (spray, brush, and trowel), resistance to hot or freezing temperatures, physical properties, and even outlined methods of testing the product for solids content, flow properties, and pliability and adherence characteristics prior to use.

Coupled with the fact that few coating manufacturers produce bituminous paint (it is considered too “messy” a process by some), and many engineers are left searching for a supplier that can not only produce a bituminous coating, but can work with existing engineering specifications to deliver the exact product needed.

One supplier that does meet this definition, Wohl Coatings (www.wohlcoatings.com), specializes in the formulation and manufacturing of bituminous coatings. The company also produces a variety of other protective coatings including asphalt mastics, coal tar products, pipe lacquers and primers.

Wohl Coatings frequently fields Internet queries and calls from engineers asking for a product that meets existing specifications.

In response, Wohl Coatings today produces a variety of bi-

bituminous and other protective coatings specifically designed to match known specifications. When a specification changes or a previously unknown application surfaces, Wohl Coatings can work to find an appropriate coating formulation that will match the requirements and if no such product exists will often formulate one.

Although bituminous paint can be used for a variety of applications, the primary markets for such products is with tubular steel manufacturers that coat the product prior to delivery and for heavy construction.

Tubular Steel and Bituminous Coatings

Tubular carbon steel manufacturers apply black bituminous coatings as a “temporary” finish designed to last approximately 18 months in the field. These thin film coatings, such as Wohl Coating’s BB-99 Bituminous Black Pipe Coating, provide a durable coating to protect the pipe from corrosion during storage in the yard through delivery.

In the field, the thin bituminous coating can be removed, if necessary, in favor of a high performance coating based on the end user’s requirements.

When a more permanent coating is required by the end user, tubular steel manufacturers have several options including a high build bituminous black pipe coating (BB-124) or coal tar epoxy or

mastic. Wohl Coatings carries both a single part coal tar mastic (Cooper Black No. 760 Heavy Duty Protective Coating) and a two-component coal tar epoxy (Cooper Black No. 775 Epoxy Tar Coating).

A clear pipe lacquer can be used as an alternative to black when the customer desires a "see through" finish, such as when writing on a length of pipe needs to be read in the field.

Bituminous Pile Paint for Heavy Construction

In heavy construction, bituminous paint is required to meet the engineering specifications of many road, bridge or tunneling projects.

As one example, AASHTO (American Association of State

Highway and Transportation Officials) outlines the specifications for field-applied coating of corrugated metal structural plate for pipe, pipe-arches, and arches under AASHTO M243.

To meet the requirements of quality of the asphalt mastic as well as thickness of the coating, Wohl formulated and produced its BB-124 M243 (in reference to the specification). This bituminous pipe coating also meets the requirements of AASHTO M190.

Based on several requests, Wohl Coatings has also produced a BB-110 Pile Paint, a heavy duty asphalt coating for pilings that can be field applied to prevent corrosion above and below the grade, as per the requirements of the specification.

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