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Hexavalent Chromium Sealant Alternatives

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Government



Aviation &
Missile Command
Safety Office



U.S. AIR FORCE



Industry



Academia



Key Team Members

| | |
|--|---------------------------|
| Paul Robinson/Casey Yeary | AMCOM G4 |
| Kent DeFranco/Zachary Powell/Tony Phillips | Lockheed Martin |
| Alp Manavbasi/Kevin Baranowski | Metalast |
| Diane Klienschmidt | NAVAIR |
| Kurt Kessel | NASA |
| Erich Schoch/Steve Davidson | Northrop Grumman |
| Dayna Lamb/David Pinsky | Raytheon |
| Greg Morose – TEAM LEAD | TURI, UMass Lowell |
| Alan Fletcher | USAF |

Several additional team members played significant roles in various activities at each OEM/Agency/Company/Institution and made this project possible.

Purpose

- Polysulfide sealants containing soluble hexavalent chromium (Cr6+) compounds are used in various aerospace manufacturing applications including:
 - Butt joints
 - Faying surfaces
 - Wet installation of fasteners
 - Sealing over the heads of fasteners
 - Brush coating on a flat surface
- All above applications are prohibited under the DFARS rule on Cr6+ minimization
- The established industry and military specification testing criteria was determined insufficient to differentiate between hexavalent chromium containing and hexavalent chromium free sealant used in various applications where damage is expected.
 - Test vehicle and parameters based on MIL-PRF-81733 with variations primarily to induce damage , stress and to represent hardware applications
- Testing was intended to provide screening level data necessary to influence the following individual decisions regarding how to proceed with DFARS compliance.
 - Pursue Additional Screening Testing
 - Pursue Qualification Level Testing
 - Request exemptions

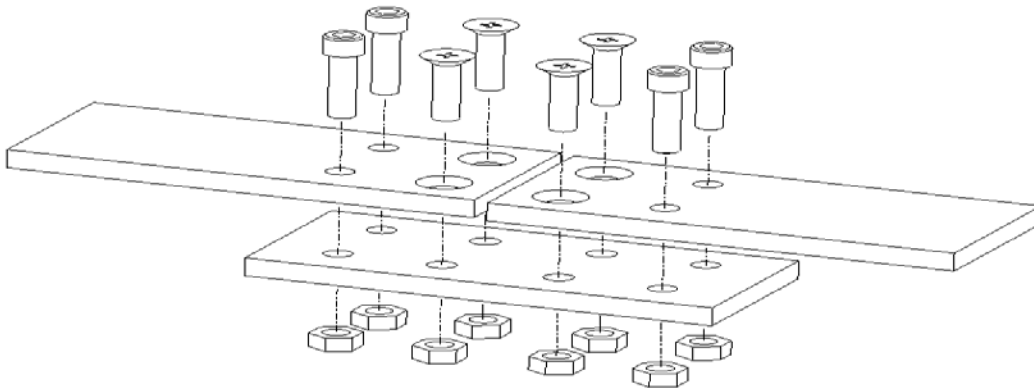
Material Selection

- Numerous sealants were considered for evaluation in the study, main criteria used in selection:
 - Contains hexavalent chromium (Y/N)
 - Alternative contains a corrosion inhibitor package (Y/N)
 - Chemistry of the corrosion inhibitors
 - Alternative qualified to a military or industry specification (Y/N)
 - Application time
 - Cure Time to 30 Shore A
 - Shore A, full cure
 - Chemical Class (polysulfide, polythioether, silicone, etc.)
- Due to limited funding the selection limited to 3 alternatives and 1 baseline

| Vendor | Vendor PN | Specification | Chemistry | Corrosion Inhibitor |
|---------------|-----------|--|---------------|---------------------|
| PPG Aerospace | PS-870 | MIL-PRF-81733D Type II Class 1 Grade A | Polysulfide | Hexavalent chromium |
| 3M | AC-735 | MIL-PRF-81733D Type II Class 1 Grade B and AMS 3265 Class B | Polysulfide | Zinc phosphate |
| PPG Aerospace | PR-1775 | AMS 3265 Class B | Polysulfide | Ammonium phosphite |
| PPG Aerospace | PR-2001 | AMS 3277 Type II, Class B | Polythioether | None |

Test Vehicle (TV) Assembly Drawing

- A single test vehicle design was developed to evaluate 5 different bonding applications (similar to MIL-PRF-81733)
 - Butt Gap
 - Faying Surface
 - Wet Installation of Fasteners
 - Sealing over Fastener Heads
 - Brush coating on a flat surface
- Each TV had 3 metal plates with matching non-threaded holes (8 per TV) through which threaded fasteners were inserted and then held in place by nuts.



Aluminum plates: 2"
x 4.5" x 0.25" (alloys
6061 and 7075)

Test Vehicle Preparation

- TV materials procured and machined by TURI/UMASS Lowell
 - A286 ¼” Fasteners; NAS1102E4-14 (flat head), NAS1351N4-14 (socket head)
- Hexavalent chromium chemical conversion coated panels
 - Processed at **Northrop Grumman Linthicum, MD**
 - MacDermid Iridite 14-2
 - MIL-DTL-81706 Type I Class 1A Form II Method C
- Trivalent Chromium chemical conversion coated panels
 - Metalast TCP-HF HPA 100 panel preparation performed by **Metalast**
 - Processed at Metalast International in Minden, NV
 - Not qualified to MIL-DTL-81706

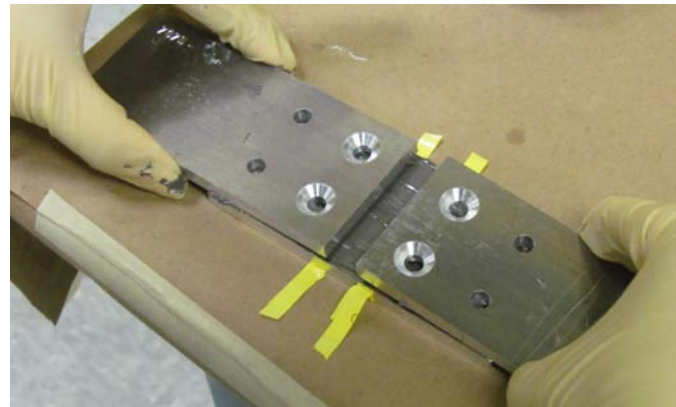
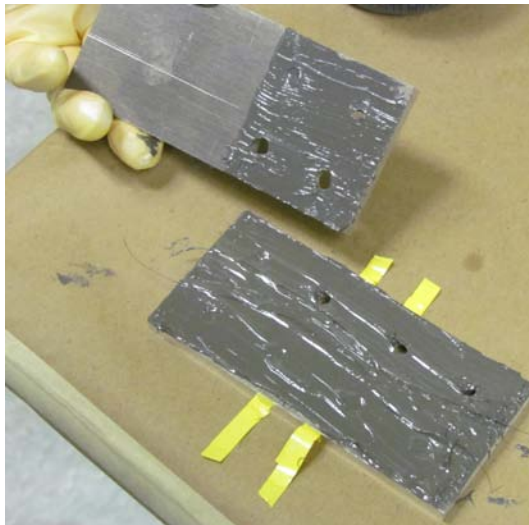
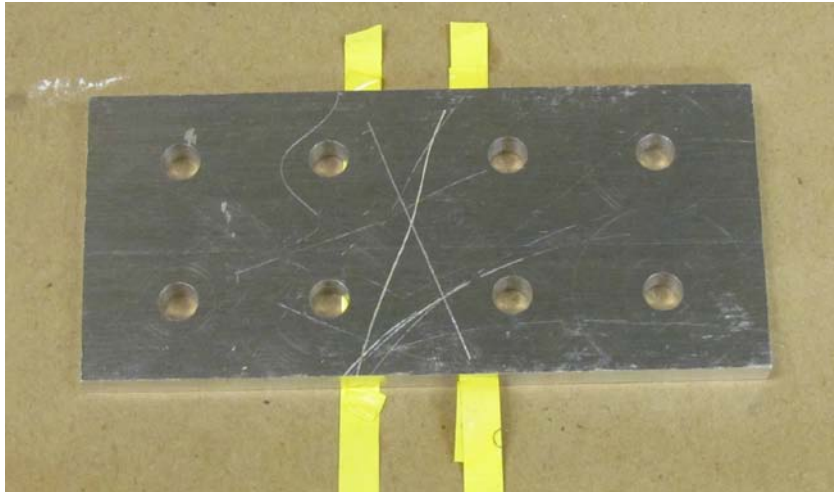
| Stages | Type | Concentration | Temperature (°F) | Time (min) |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|
| Cleaner | METALAST Cleaner 1000 | 45g/L | 120 | 5.0-10.0 |
| Rinse | RO water | - | Ambient | 1.0 |
| Rinse | RO water | - | Ambient | 1.0 |
| Surface Activation | Deox 3300 (A) + *Nitric Acid | 45g/L + 20% v/v | Ambient | 0.5 |
| Rinse | RO water | - | Ambient | 1.0 |
| Rinse | RO water | - | Ambient | 1.0 |
| METALAST TCP-HF HPA 100 | - | 30% v/v | Ambient | 5.0 |
| Rinse | RO water | - | Ambient | 0.1 |
| Dry | Forced Air | 6 | Ambient | - |

Iridite 14-2 conversion coating applied at Northrop Grumman; Linthicum, MD

TVs Assembly Process

1. Butt Joint Scribe: Scribed the top side of the bottom plate with an “X”
2. Faying Surface: Applied approximately 0.005 inch of sealing compound to one side of each of the 3 mating TV panels with an orange stick, glass rod or equivalent. Add 0.005 inch wires to control the bond line.
3. Threaded Fasteners: Evenly coated the entire surface area of the fasteners with the appropriate sealing compound and then inserted into the freshly mated panels. Installed nuts and torqued to 40 in-lbs.
4. Butt Joint: Applied sealing compound to the butt joint with an orange stick, glass rod or equivalent to completely fill the gap, smoothed with squeegee.
5. Wiped clean excess sealant from the entire TV prior to proceeding.
6. Fastener Heads: Completely covered over and around two of each type of fastener head, on each TV, as well as the corresponding nuts.
7. Flat Plate Surface: Applied two strips of 0.005 to 0.007 in thick tape approx 0.025 in apart on the opposite side of the butt gap between the recessed fasteners. Filled the area between the tape with sealant, smoothed with a squeegee.
8. Curing: Allowed entire TV to cure for 48 hours at room temperature.
9. Prime and Paint: Applied primer and topcoats to the test vehicles according to manufacturer instructions.

TV Assembly Process Photos

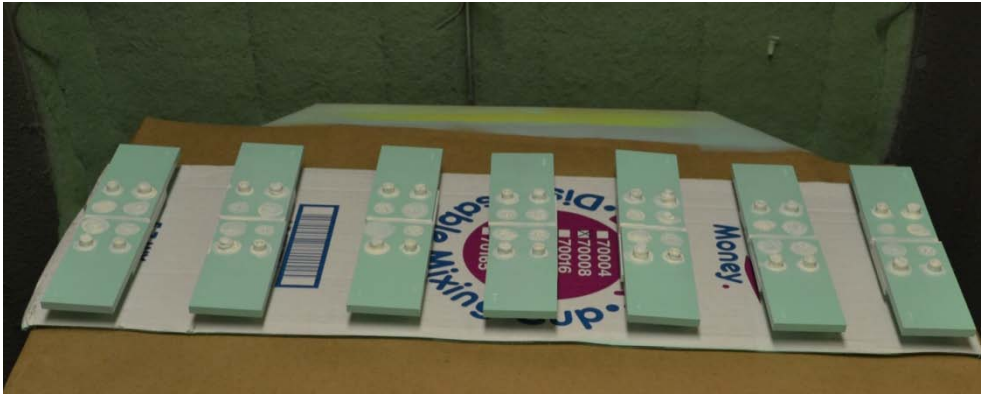
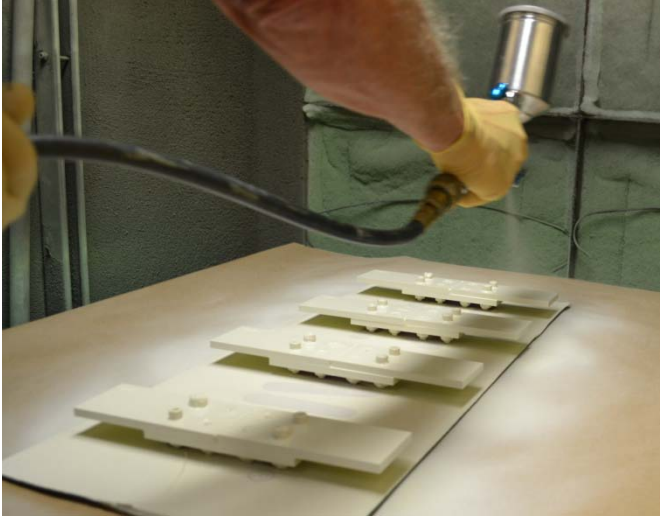


TV Assembly Process Photos



Priming and Painting

| Vendor | Model | Primer/Topcoat | Specification | Hexavalent Chromium Containing |
|-------------------------------|--|----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Akzo Nobel Aerospace Coatings | 10P20-13 High solids epoxy primer + EC-213 HS epoxy primer cure solution | Primer | MIL SPEC PRF 23377, Type 1, Class C | Yes |
| Deft Inc. | 44GN098 1GK base and catalyst | Primer | MIL SPEC PRF 85582, Type 1, Class N | No |
| PRC-Desoto of PPG Aerospace | CA8211, 8211F37886MPY 22K | Topcoat | MIL SPEC PRF 85285, Type 1 | No |



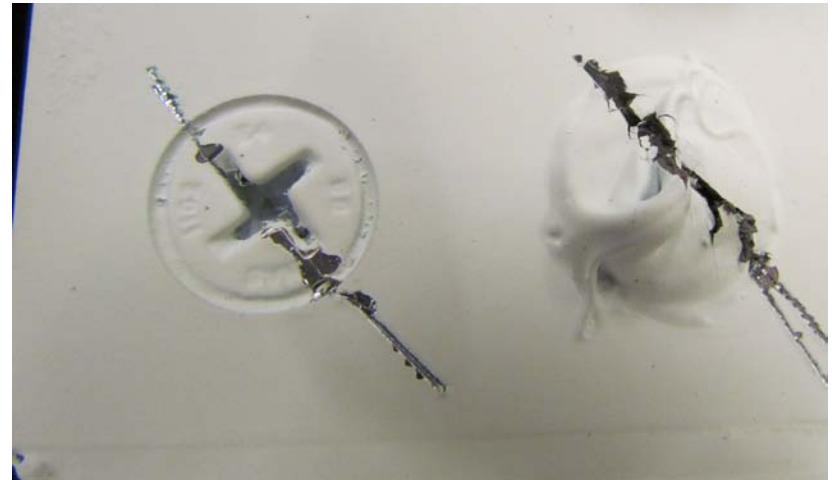
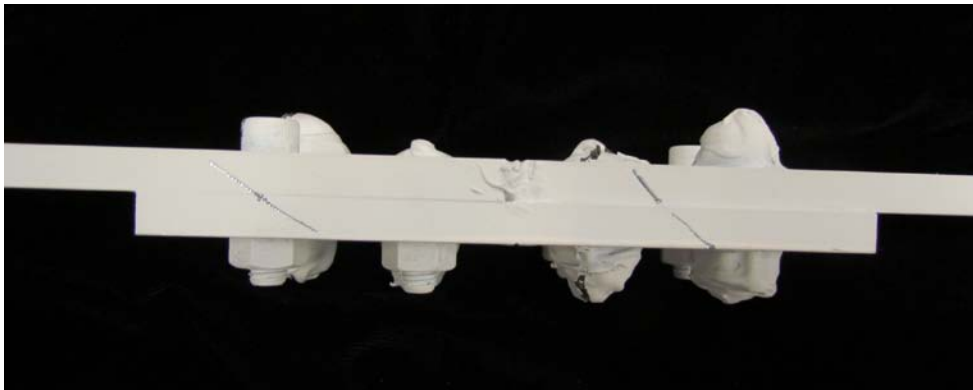
In order to get complete coverage of the areas with sealant and prevent exceeding the maximum thickness requirements for the entire TV, hand priming and painted was performed over the sealant areas prior to spray application to the manufacturers instructions.

Induced Damage – Scribing

One of the major differences with this test plan and MIL-STD-81733 is that there is damage induced to the specimens.

Scribed Test Vehicles:

- Scribes were generated by an Erichsen Scratch Stylus acc to Sikkens Model 463 with a 1 mm wide carbon tip.
- Scribed an “X” at the base of butt gap prior to addition of butt gap sealant material.
- Scribed through the primer/topcoat at edge of test vehicle in four locations.
- Scribed along brush coat area on the bottom plate flat surface area.
- Scribed over four fastener heads (two flush heads and two protruding heads) and two nuts on each test vehicle.



Preconditioning

- The purpose of this testing was to simulate the severe operating environment of various aerospace/defense applications
 - Provides mechanical and thermal preconditioning to stress the sealant joints prior to salt fog testing
- Preconditioning executed IAW MIL-PRF-81733D Section 4.8.9.3.1 Cyclic Loading for Class 1 materials
 - -65°F soak for 30 min with no load, followed by cyclic loading between 0 & 5,000 lbs.
 - 250 cycles per each test vehicle

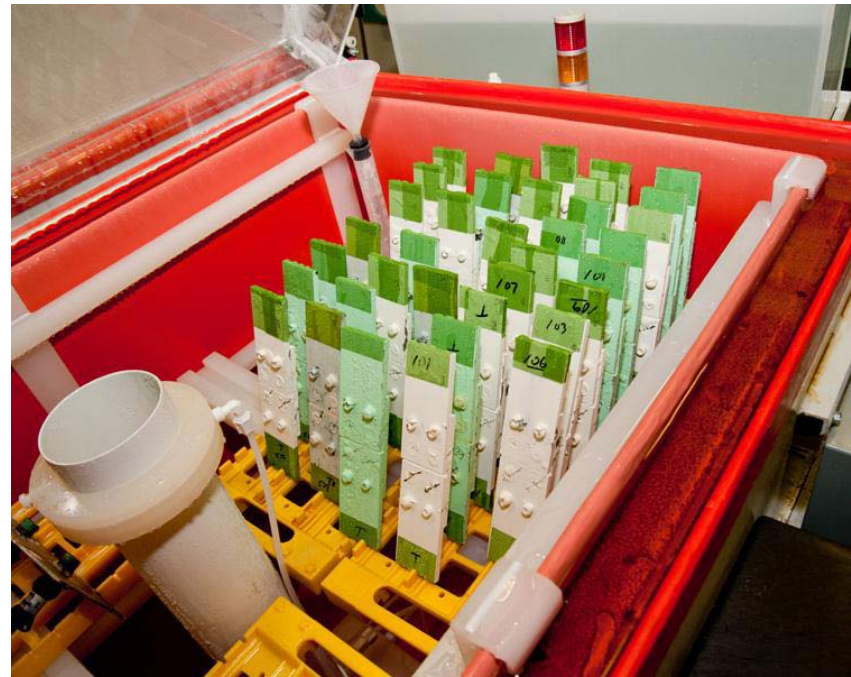


Salt Fog Testing at Lockheed Martin

SO₂ Salt Fog IAW ASTM G85 Annex 4

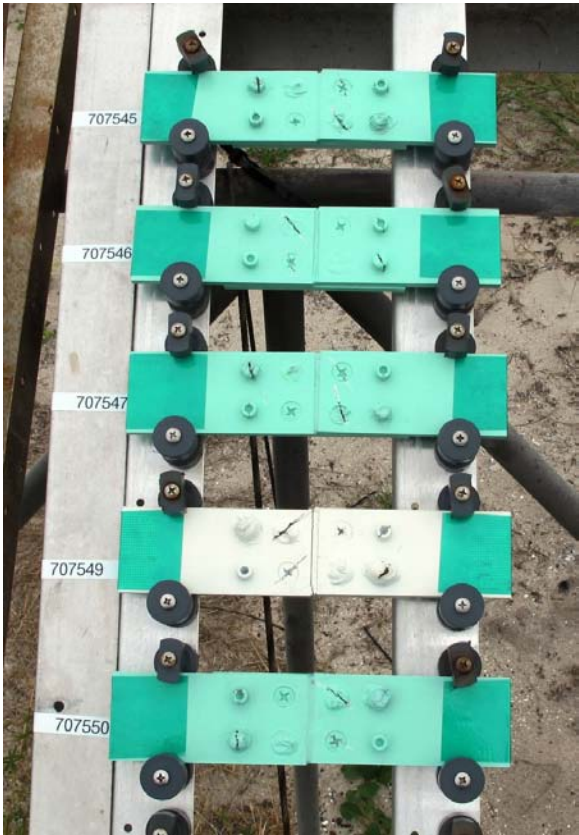
- 6 hr cycles in an environmentally controlled chamber
- 5% NaCl solution (aq) was constantly sprayed into the chamber for all 6 hours of the cycle at a collection rate of 1-2 ml/hr
- After the first 5 hrs of the cycle, SO₂ gas was introduced into the chamber for 1 hr to complete the cycle
- 6 hr cycle was continuously repeated for 1008 hours
- Chamber kept at 95 +/- 3 °F and the temperature in the air saturator tower was kept at 117 +/- 2 °F
- pH kept in the range of 2.5 -3.2, controlled by adjusting the flow rate of SO₂ gas

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NASA Beachfront Testing

- Five test vehicles are currently at NASA Beachside Atmospheric Test Facility, Kennedy Space Center, FL
- Provides real-time corrosion experiments and remote monitoring of surrounding weather conditions including wind speed and direction, and rainfall.
- The results of the beach testing are not included in this report, but will occur over a 12 month duration. To be completed in November, 2013.



| Number | Alloy | Sealant | Conversion Coating | Secondary Finish | Test |
|--------|-------|---------|--------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 45 | 7075 | P/S-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF primer only | Beachfront |
| 46 | 7075 | AC-735 | Metalast | HCF primer only | Beachfront |
| 47 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Metalast | HCF primer only | Beachfront |
| 49 | 7075 | P/S-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF primer only + Topcoat | Beachfront |
| 50 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Metalast | HCF primer only | Beachfront |



Design of Experiments

| Number | Alloy | Sealant | Conversion Coating | Secondary Finish | Test |
|--------|-------|---------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 6061 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 2 | 6061 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 3 | 6061 | AC-735 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 4 | 6061 | AC-735 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 5 | 6061 | AC-735 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 6 | 6061 | AC-735 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 7 | 6061 | PR-1775 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 8 | 6061 | PR-1775 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 9 | 6061 | PR-1775 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 10 | 6061 | PR-1775 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 11 | 6061 | PR-2001 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 12 | 6061 | PR-2001 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 13 | 6061 | PR-2001 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 14 | 6061 | PR-2001 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |

Design of Experiments

| Number | Alloy | Sealant | Conversion Coating | Secondary Finish | Test |
|--------|-------|---------|--------------------|----------------------|--------------------|
| 15 | 7075 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 16 | 7075 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 17 | 7075 | AC-735 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 18 | 7075 | AC-735 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 19 | 7075 | AC-735 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 20 | 7075 | AC-735 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 21 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 22 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 23 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 24 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 25 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 26 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 27 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 28 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |

Design of Experiments

| Number | Alloy | Sealant | Conversion Coating | Secondary Finish | Test |
|--------|-------|---------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|
| 29 | 7075 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 30 | 7075 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 31 | 7075 | AC-735 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 32 | 7075 | AC-735 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 33 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 34 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 35 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer & Topcoat | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |
| 36 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Iridite 14-2 | HC Primer Only | Salt fog 1,008 hrs |

Early Failure Analysis & Beachfront Testing

| Number | Alloy | Sealant | Conversion Coating | Secondary Finish | Test |
|--------|-------|---------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 37 | 7075 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 336 hrs |
| 38 | 7075 | AC-735 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 336 hrs |
| 39 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 336 hrs |
| 40 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 336 hrs |
| 41 | 7075 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 672 hrs |
| 42 | 7075 | AC-735 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 672 hrs |
| 43 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 672 hrs |
| 44 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Salt fog 672 hrs |
| 45 | 7075 | PS-870 | Iridite 14-2 | HCF Primer Only | Beachfront |
| 46 | 7075 | AC-735 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Beachfront |
| 47 | 7075 | PR-1775 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Beachfront |
| 50 | 7075 | PR-2001 | Metalast TCP | HCF Primer Only | Beachfront |

Results/Inspection

Non-destructive Inspection Results

- Inspections used to examine the outer appearance of the test vehicles
- Performed on all of the test vehicles at the following intervals of exposure to the salt fog:
 - 168 hours (1 week)
 - 336 hours (2 weeks)
 - 672 hours (4 weeks)
 - 1,008 hours (6 weeks)
- Inspection provided valuable information regarding the outside appearance of the test vehicles

Destructive Visual Inspection Results

- TVs were dismantled to conduct the destructive inspection so that the amount of corrosion could be recorded
- Performed on
 - 4 TVs after 2 weeks
 - 4 TVs after 4 weeks
 - 36 TVs after 6 weeks
- TVs were dismantled by removing the fasteners, separating the plates of the test vehicles, and stripping sealant with toluene to reveal the inner surfaces that were protected by sealant

Results/Inspection

The test vehicles were divided into three categories

- 1) 6061 aluminum alloy with hex-chrome free (HCF) primer
- 2) 7075 aluminum alloy with HCF primer
- 3) 7075 aluminum alloy with hex-chrome (HC) primer

Within the three categories of test vehicles, there were two areas of interest: (6 groups total)

- 1) butt joint and faying surface related areas
- 2) fastener countersunk related areas

Ratings for the amount of corrosion in each area of interest were recorded as a percentage

0% = no corrosion was present

100 % = complete corrosion

Corrosion was only recorded if there was deterioration of the metal (pitting).

For duplicate TVs, the corrosion values were averaged

The primary performance indicator of sealant corrosion inhibition was determined to be the butt joints and faying surfaces category; due to the large amount of surface area the sealant was required to protect

Results

| Butt Joints and Faying Surfaces (TVs 1-14) | | |
|--|-------------|-------------------|
| 6061 with HCF Primer | | |
| Sealant | Surf. Prep. | Average Corrosion |
| PS-870 | Iridite | 0.5% |
| PR-1775 | Iridite | 0.8% |
| PR-1775 | Metalast | 1.0% |
| AC-735 | Iridite | 1.0% |
| PR-2001 | Iridite | 2.7% |
| AC-735 | Metalast | 3.7% |
| PR-2001 | Metalast | 12% |

| Countersink Areas (TVs 1-14) | | |
|------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 6061 with HCF Primer | | |
| Sealant | Surf. Prep. | Average Corrosion |
| PR-2001 | Metalast | 0.8% |
| PR-2001 | Iridite | 1.0% |
| PR-1775 | Metalast | 1.1% |
| PR-1775 | Iridite | 1.4% |
| PS-870 | Iridite | 1.4% |
| AC-735 | Iridite | 2% |
| AC-735 | Metalast | 2% |

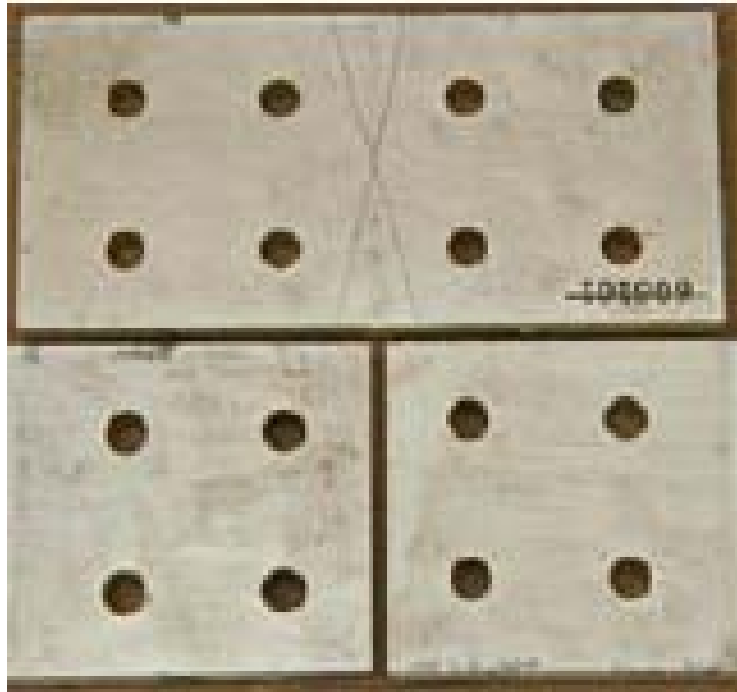
| Butt Joints and Faying Surfaces (TVs 15-28) | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 7075 with HCF Primer | | |
| Sealant | Surf. Prep. | Average Corrosion |
| AC-735 | Iridite | 1.8% |
| PR-1775 | Iridite | 2.0% |
| PS-870 | Iridite | 2.2% |
| PR-2001 | Iridite | 4.2% |
| PR-1775 | Metalast | 29% |
| PR-2001 | Metalast | 63% |
| AC-735 | Metalast | 75% |

| Countersink Areas (TVs 15-28) | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 7075 with HCF Primer | | |
| Sealant | Surf. Prep. | Average Corrosion |
| PR-1775 | Iridite | 31% |
| PR-1775 | Metalast | 48% |
| PS-870 | Iridite | 48% |
| PR-2001 | Metalast | 58% |
| PR-2001 | Iridite | 58% |
| AC-735 | Iridite | 68% |
| AC-735 | Metalast | 86% |

| Butt Joints and Faying Surfaces (TVs 29-36) | | |
|---|-------------|-------------------|
| 7075 with HC Primer | | |
| Sealant | Surf. Prep. | Average Corrosion |
| AC-735 | Iridite | 1.5% |
| PR-1775 | Iridite | 2.0% |
| PS-870 | Iridite | 2.8% |
| PR-2001 | Iridite | 3.3% |

| Countersink Areas (TVs 29-36) | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|-------------------|
| 7075 with HC Primer | | |
| Sealant | Surf. Prep. | Average Corrosion |
| PR-1775 | Iridite | 22% |
| PS-870 | Iridite | 48% |
| PR-2001 | Iridite | 62% |
| AC-735 | Iridite | 78% |

Results



Faying Surface



Countersunk holes

1008 hours
6061 alloy
Iridite 14-2
HCF primer + topcoat
P/S 870



Faying Surface

Statistical Analysis

The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) results can be used for hypothesis testing. The null hypothesis used for this research is that the corrosion values for different factor/level combinations within the experimental design are the same for each combination. The alternative hypothesis is that the expected corrosion values for different factor/level combinations within the experimental design are not the same.

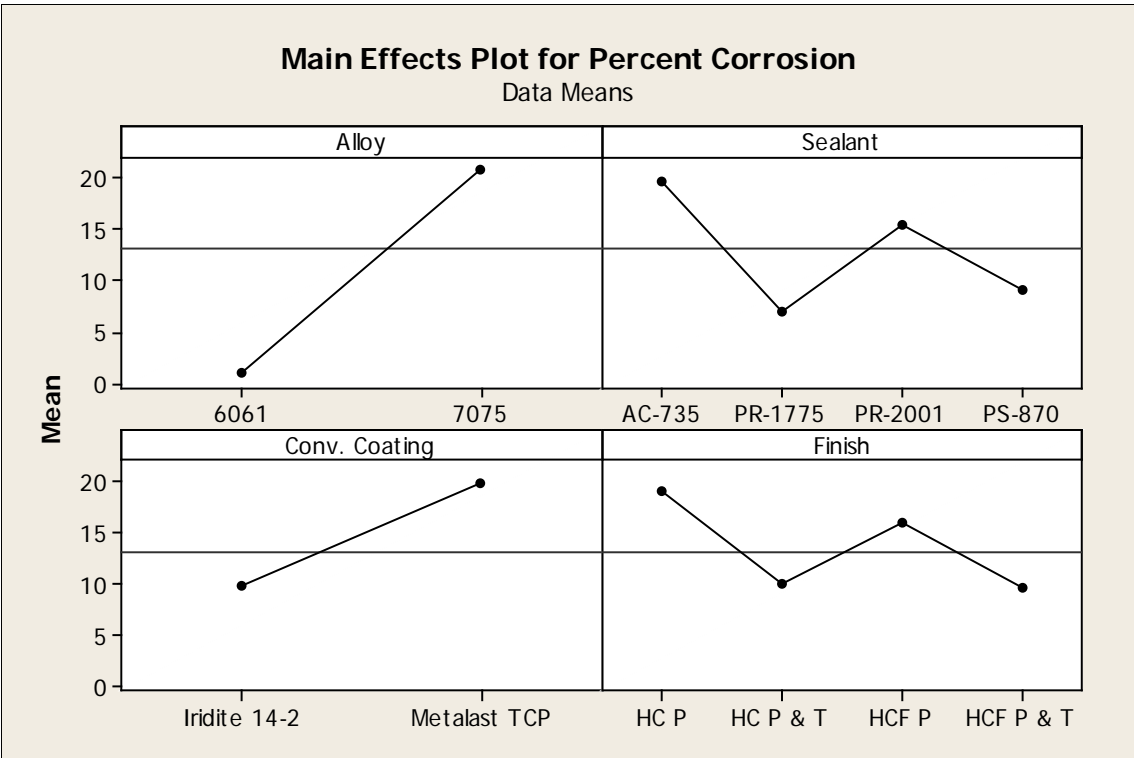
A P-value is a measure of how much evidence we have against the null hypotheses about the population. P-values represent the probability of making a Type 1 error, or rejecting the null hypothesis when it is true. The smaller the P-value is, then the smaller is the probability that you would be making a mistake by rejecting the null hypothesis.

For the purposes of this research, if the P-value is 0.05 or less, then the corrosion results were considered to be significantly different and likely to support the alternative hypothesis.

| P-Value | Designation |
|---------|----------------------|
| 0 - 5% | Significant |
| > 5% | Not Significant (NS) |



Destructive Inspection: All Applications



All applications:
butt joint, faying surface,
countersunk area, and
barrel area

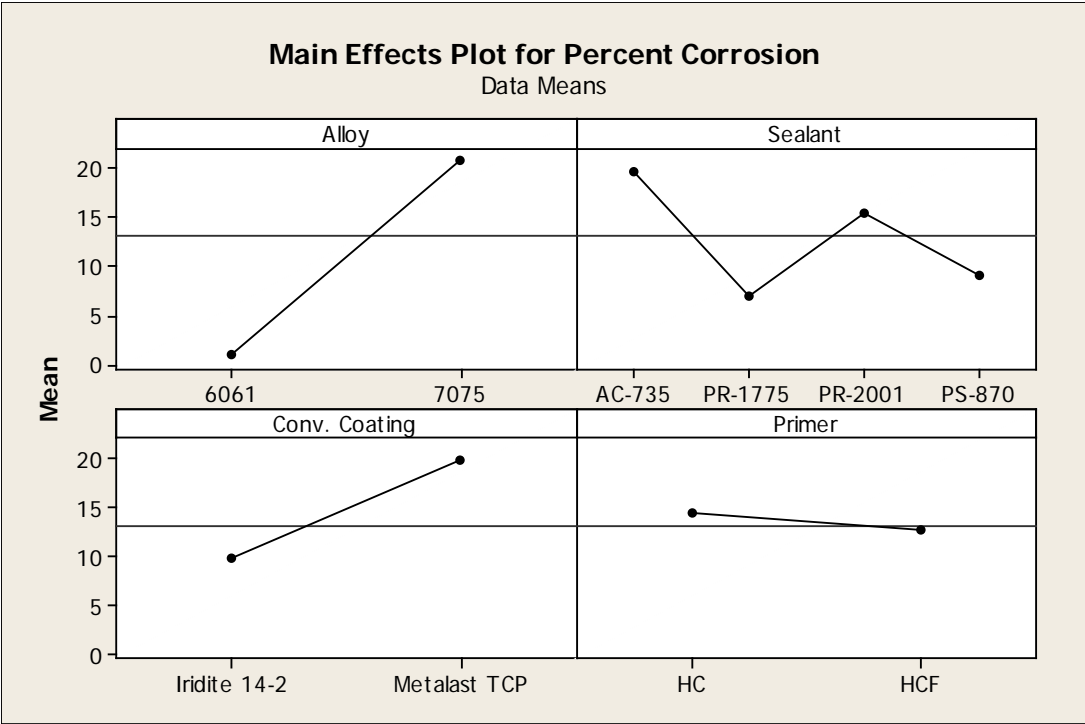
Type of alloy is significant.
(P value = 0.00)

Conversion coating is significant.
(P value = 0.008)

Analysis of Variance for Percent Corrosion, using Adjusted SS for Tests

| Source | DF | Seq SS | Adj SS | Adj MS | F | P |
|---------------|----|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Alloy | 1 | 3372.8 | 3854.8 | 3854.8 | 33.89 | 0.000 |
| Sealant | 3 | 1029.8 | 845.3 | 281.8 | 2.48 | 0.083 |
| Conv. Coating | 1 | 1264.3 | 918.0 | 918.0 | 8.07 | 0.008 |
| Finish | 3 | 541.2 | 541.2 | 180.4 | 1.59 | 0.216 |
| Error | 27 | 3070.9 | 3070.9 | 113.7 | | |
| Total | 35 | 9279.0 | | | | |

Destructive Inspection: All Applications

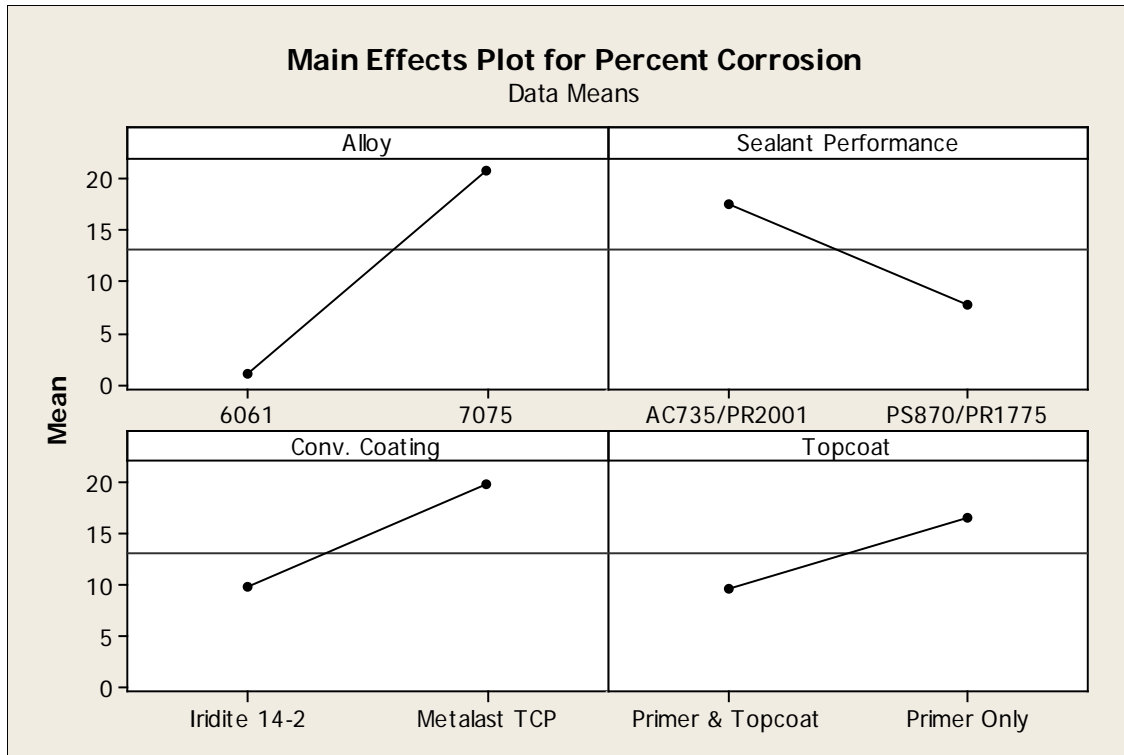


Type of primer is not significant.
(P value = 0.379)

Analysis of Variance for Percent Corrosion, using Adjusted SS for Tests

| Source | DF | Seq SS | Adj SS | Adj MS | F | P |
|---------------|----|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Alloy | 1 | 3372.8 | 3854.8 | 3854.8 | 31.80 | 0.000 |
| Sealant | 3 | 1029.8 | 845.3 | 281.8 | 2.32 | 0.096 |
| Conv. Coating | 1 | 1264.3 | 918.0 | 918.0 | 7.57 | 0.010 |
| Primer | 1 | 96.7 | 96.7 | 96.7 | 0.80 | 0.379 |
| Error | 29 | 3515.4 | 3515.4 | 121.2 | | |
| Total | 35 | 9279.0 | | | | |

Destructive Inspection: All Applications



PS-870/PR-1175 sealants versus AC735/PR-2001 is significant.
(P value = 0.023)

Presence of topcoat is significant.
(P value = 0.055)

Analysis of Variance for Percent Corrosion, using Adjusted SS for Tests

| Source | DF | Seq SS | Adj SS | Adj MS | F | P |
|---------------|----|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|
| Alloy | 1 | 3372.8 | 4026.0 | 4026.0 | 36.75 | 0.000 |
| Sealant Perf. | 1 | 940.4 | 626.5 | 626.5 | 5.72 | 0.023 |
| Conv. Coating | 1 | 1135.0 | 1135.0 | 1135.0 | 10.36 | 0.003 |
| Topcoat | 1 | 435.0 | 435.0 | 435.0 | 3.97 | 0.055 |
| Error | 31 | 3396.0 | 3396.0 | 109.5 | | |
| Total | 35 | 9279.0 | | | | |

Destructive Inspection Summary

| Factor | Butt Joint | Counter-sunk Area | Faying Surface | Barrel Area | All Applications | Conclusion |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--|
| Alloy | Significant (6061) | Significant (6061) | Significant (6061) | Significant (6061) | Significant (6061) | 6061 better than 7075 |
| Sealant | NS | Significant (PR-1775 best results) | NS | NS | *NS | Overall, PS870 & PR1775 better |
| Conversion Coating | Significant (Iridite) | NS | Significant (Iridite) | Significant (Iridite) | Significant (Iridite) | HC (Iridite) better than HCF except for counter sunk areas |
| Finish | **NS | Significant (HCF P & T) | NS | NS | NS | No difference HC to HCF, except butt joint |

* PS870 & PR1775 performance is significant versus AC735 & PR2001 performance.

** Type of primer is significant with HC better than HCF primer

Conclusions

- Testing not performed to any military or industry standard specification - developed by the Team as a screening level test approach specifically for differentiating between Hex Cr containing and Hex Cr free sealants in field applications subject to a corrosive environment where damage can be expected
- Testing was modeled after MIL-STD-81733, but modified
- Included a large number of variables, a limited number of test vehicles, and very few replicates
- Not enough data to derive statistically significant results for the many variables
- ***Results and conclusions are based on the conditions of this limited testing effort and are not intended to be an endorsement or disapproval of the various products included in the test***

SEALANTS

Butt Joints and Faying Surfaces

When tested with an Iridite 14-2 Hex Cr containing conversion coating, regardless of primer type or alloy type, the corrosion inhibiting performance of the AC-735 and PR-1775 Hex Cr free sealants was comparable to the PS-870 Hex Cr containing sealant

Countersink Areas

When tested with an Iridite 14-2 Hex Cr containing conversion coating, regardless of primer type or alloy type, the corrosion inhibiting performance of the PR-1775 hexavalent chromium free sealant was comparable or better to the PS-870 Hex Cr containing sealant

General Conclusions

Alloys - 6061 Al consistently exhibited better corrosion resistance compared to 7075 Al when similar conversion coatings and sealants were used

Especially evident in the countersink areas of the test vehicles - an expected result of the inherent corrosion resistance differences in the alloys themselves

Conversion Coatings - In general Hex Cr containing Iridite 14-2 conversion coating provided the better corrosion resistance results when compared to Metalast TCP-HF HPA 100, with the exception of the countersink areas on the 6061 Al.

Primer - In general there was no significant difference in corrosion resistance observed regardless of alloy or conversion coating if a Hex Cr containing primer or Hex Cr free primer was used

Topcoat – In general there was improved corrosion resistance overall in the TVs when a topcoat was used regardless of the primer, conversion coating, alloy or sealant

This was more evident in the 7075 alloy over the 6061

Lessons Learned

- Tried to do too much with too little – ideally should have more replicates and fewer variables for better statistical results
- Stick to original plan of DFARS only - eliminate TCP conversion coating, and chromate primer from the Design of Experiments
- Include a negative control for subsequent testing efforts
 - We did not have a polysulfide with no corrosion inhibitor – only a polthioether without a corrosion inhibitor (different polymer chemistry)
- Large variability in countersink data; holes not threaded which is not a typical scenario

NEXT STEPS.....

SAVE THE DATE



Tuesday September 24, 2013 – Aerospace/Defense Supply Chain

This will be a meeting with representatives across the aerospace/defense industry supply chain to review the use of toxic chemicals in products and manufacturing processes. The objective is to identify collaborative research and training opportunities to address the use of the toxic chemicals.

This meeting will be held in Sturbridge, MA at the Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Center.

TURI will be posting more information (at www.turi.org) about this meeting and the registration process during the May 2013.

For questions about this meeting, please contact Greg Morose at Gregory_Morose@uml.edu or 978-934-2954.