Where there’s oil, where there’s water, there’s Xylan®

How the versatile family of Xylan coatings can help solve your friction and corrosion problems

Whitford
Manufacturers of the world’s largest, most complete line of fluoropolymer coatings
We all learned in school that “oil and water don’t mix”. But there is an important exception to the rule: today’s versatile Xylan coatings.

This vast array of coatings, each designed to meet a specific need (or needs) for fasteners, has been solving the same kinds of problems for the oil as well as the waterworks industries (not to mention the chemical, automotive, energy and other industries) for nearly 40 years.

**Oil**

The corrosive elements of the environment are responsible for today’s advanced coatings. Previously, fasteners were protected only by electroplating, cadmium or zinc. But the protection was insufficient for the demands of the industry. (In addition, zinc coatings by themselves cause uneven, unpredictable results.)

**Water**

The waterworks industry, like many others, faces a disturbing increase in raw-material costs. That’s why nobody in the industry wants to pay the steep (and still climbing) price of fasteners made of stainless steel. Further, stainless steel has less yield strength than alloy steel, so a fastener coated with Xylan not only offers greater strength but provides more accurate torque control than its stainless counterpart.

In spite of this, some do pay the higher cost, generally because nobody wants to put an uncoated steel fastener in wet, hot soil, only to encounter rapid corrosion and the problems that causes.

**Enter Xylan coatings**

Xylan coatings solve as many problems for the oil industry as they do for waterworks.

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**For example:**

1. **Controlled torque**: Xylan coatings are engineered with PTFE for lubrication, which allows precise and uniform makeup torque. (Stainless-steel fasteners are prone to galling.)

2. **Easy removal of nuts**: The lubricity of Xylan coatings makes removal easy — even after many years. Coefficient of friction is as low as 0.055.

3. **Resistance to rust/corrosion**: Steel fasteners coated with Xylan over a zinc pretreatment provide corrosion resistance almost equal to that of stainless steel. (They last as long as 2,500 hours in ASTM B-117 salt-fog tests with less than 15% red rust.)

4. **Resistance to galvanic corrosion**: This occurs when two metals far from one another on the electromotive (galvanic) scale are joined by a conductor such as moisture. That frequently happens when stainless-steel fasteners are used with ductile iron, often employed in waterworks pipes and fittings. Xylan coatings reduce this corrosion. They also have a dielectric strength from 500-1,200 volts per mil (which inhibits galvanic corrosion).

5. **Eliminates the need for toxic lubricating paste**: In fact, Whitford recommends not using such pastes with Xylan-coated fasteners.

6. **Tough**: Excellent resistance to wear, abrasion, chipping.

7. **Cost**: Compared to stainless steel, Xylan coatings can save significant amounts (steel fasteners coated with Xylan cost an average of 50% less than stainless-steel fasteners).

8. **Wide range of operating temperatures**: Xylan coatings operate easily from -425°F/-255°C to +550°F/+290°C.

9. **UV-stable**: Some Xylan formulations have superb resistance to ultraviolet light.

10. **Resistance to hot soil**: Xylan helps protect fasteners from corrosion caused by hot soils and most common chemicals.

11. **Easily applied**: Xylan can be applied by conventional spray, HVLP, electrostatic and dip/spin, making Xylan cost-effective for any size item, from large fasteners to small 0-rings.

12. **Remarkable adhesion**: It adheres to a variety of substrates, including steel, aluminum, copper, stainless steel, brass, titanium.

13. **Color-coding**: Xylan is easily color-coded for specific applications (to avoid confusion).

14. **FDA-acceptable**: Many Xylan coating formulations comply with Food & Drug Administra-
tion regulations for food contact.

**Surface preparation**

Xylan coatings (or any thin-film coating) cannot by themselves provide complete corrosion protection. For maximum performance, primers or pretreatments are required. The best are:

- Microcrystalline, heat-stable zinc or manganes phosphate conversion coating
- Xylan 4000 Series primers (ask Whitford)
- Commercial plating, zinc, cadmium and aluminum pretreatments
- Xylar 2 or P51 (ceramic metallics).

**Types of corrosion-mitigating coatings**

These fall into three common categories, all of which Whitford offers: barrier, inhibitive and sacrificial.

A **barrier coating** stands between the metal fastener and the environment. This is usually an organic coating with fillers that help stop moisture or vapor from permeating the film to the metal and becoming an electrolyte.

An **inhibitive coating** is usually an organic coating with corrosion inhibitors, such as zinc phosphates, chromates, and many more. In addition to acting as barriers, they help prevent corrosion by using pigments that provide an inhibitive effect, reacting with the absorbed moisture in the coating, then reacting with the steel to passivate it and decrease its corrosive characteristics.

A **sacrificial coating** is usually a metal or inorganic coating containing metal particles (often zinc). If the coating is damaged, they act as a sacrificial anode and corrode to protect the steel substrate, sacrificing themselves by galvanic action. These can also be electroplated like zinc or cadmium.

**The coating options**

1000 series general-purpose coatings

1014 and 1070 were the first Xylan fastener coatings, introduced in the mid-1970s and still going strong. They provide outstanding lubrication for predictable makeup and break-out torque, and they have outstanding chemical resistance. Another advantage: They tolerate temperatures from -425°F/-255°C to +550°F/+290°C continuously. Xylan 1070 has added corrosion inhibitors.

1400 series coatings

The 1400 series is the hand-spray version of the Xylan 5000 series dip/spin products (more on these later). The 1400 series does not have quite the wide temperature range of the 1000 series, although they have nearly three times the corrosion resistance applied over any given pretreatment. Xylan 1400 series coatings can be made in any color, including white. They also have better chemical resistance to bases than the 1000 series. Xylan 1400 series reaches complete cure at 400°F/205°C, ideal for most coating operations. Xylan 1400 series coatings work best for one-time installations, where the fastener will be coated, installed, and left alone.

142X series coatings

Xylan 1424 and 1427 are the environmentally friendlier combination of the 1000 and 1400 series coatings, combining the best of both. Xylan 142X coatings have all the chemical resistance of
that stainless-steel fasteners can cost twice as much as Xylan-coated carbon-steel fasteners.

**A few suggestions**

Whitford recommends the use of Whitford-approved fastener-class coating applicators, highly trained experts in the application of pretreatments, Whitford primers and coatings.

Further, with today’s emphasis on quality (such as ISO 9001-2000), Whitford urges that all end users ask for and keep a record of the lot number of the Xylan coating used. This, with the fastener certification document, ensures traceability should there be a problem.

For more information, contact your Whitford representative (or sales@whitfordww.com) and ask for our “Guide to Industrial Products”, “How to Reduce Friction with Xylan” and “9 Dangerous Misconceptions about Xylan 1000 series”.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chemical</th>
<th>Xylan 1014</th>
<th>Xylan 1400</th>
<th>Xylan 1424</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HCl (concentrated) at room temperature$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Severe blisters, rust</td>
<td>Severe blisters, rust</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCl (pH 2) at room temperature$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HCl (pH 2) at 125˚F$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaOH (50%) at room temperature$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Severe failure, blisters</td>
<td>No effect</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaOH (pH 12.5)$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Severe failure, blisters</td>
<td>No effect</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaOH (pH 9.5) at room temperature$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>No effect</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NaOH (pH 9.5) at 125˚F$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>Very slight marks</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MEK at room temperature$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toluene at room temperature$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
<td>Slight marks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethylene glycol at room temperature$^{(1)}$</td>
<td>No effect</td>
<td>No effect</td>
<td>No effect</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salt spray for 1488 hours</td>
<td>20% red rust, adhesion loss</td>
<td>15% red rust, dense edge blistering</td>
<td>&lt;15% red rust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kesternich</td>
<td>4 cycles, 20+%, red rust, adhesion loss</td>
<td>30 cycles, 1% red rust, blistering</td>
<td>30 cycles, &lt;15% red rust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Castrol Hydraulic Fluid at 200˚F$^{(2)}$</td>
<td>Not recommended</td>
<td>Gloss decrease, no loss in coating integrity</td>
<td>Gloss decrease, no loss in coating integrity</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. Canning Oceanic HK-540 at 200˚F$^{(2)}$</td>
<td>Not recommended</td>
<td>Gloss decrease, no loss in coating integrity, slight color lightening</td>
<td>Gloss decrease, no loss in coating integrity, slight color lightening</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

$^{(1)}$ = 24-hour chemical spot tests (ASTM D1308-79)  
$^{(2)}$ = Immersion tests
Coatings of Xylan offer many benefits for offshore service. These include resistance to corrosion and chemical attack, superb subsea visibility, lower maintenance costs and less downtime.

Xylan coatings have been the first choice of many engineers in the offshore industry for more than 30 years.

You'll find Xylan hard at work above and below the sea in the Hibernian Peninsula, Gulf of Mexico, Arabian Sea, South China Sea, North Sea, West Africa’s deepwater frontier — wherever the offshore industry faces severe conditions that demand the finest performance from protective coatings.

For more information, please contact your Whitford representative or the Whitford office nearest you (you’ll find the addresses of our offices on our website: whitfordww.com or email us: sales@whitfordww.com).