Installation of Corrosion Control Solutions During System RESET

John Repp – Elzly Technology Corporation I. Carl Handsy – US Army TACOM Matthew Koch – USMC CPAC Program Office

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Background

Corrosion of ground weapon systems results in significant monetary costs

LMI Army Cost of Corrosion Report - \$2B annually
LMI USMC Cost of Corrosion Report - \$0.7B annually
Some vehicles, such as legacy systems may be predisposed to corrosion

- For modern weapon systems exposure to corrosive environments and / or repair may reduce the corrosion control systems
- Upgrade or restoration of the corrosion control systems is needed

OSD Project Overview

- Incorporating proven and commercially available corrosion control technologies
- Leveraging the opportunities system RESET affords us
- Working with the PMs, OEMs and organizations performing RESET activities
- Demonstrating appropriate technologies for the weapon system
- Determining the ROI of the installation

Why Upgrading During RESET Makes Sense

- RESET provides an ideal opportunity to insert corrosion control technologies
- Weapon systems are typically largely disassembled to facilitate repair
- Worn out / broken components are repaired
- Complete coating removal and reapplication is already planned
- Facilities already have equipment and skilled workers to perform these activities

Technology Examples

• Paints and coatings Zinc-rich High-build polyurethane • Plating and metalizing Zinc and aluminum alloys High purity non-aqueous aluminum plating Part replacement Corrosion resistant parts Non-metallic components Part upgrade (e.g., galvanized body panels)



Technology Example – High Build Polyurethane Coating



Demonstrated Benefits – Zinc-rich Coatings

- Widespread use on infrastructure elements (e.g., bridges and highways)
- Used on modern weapon systems (e.g., USMC MTVR)
- Past Army project demonstrated benefit
 - 7-years in marine environment
 - Compared to traditional CARC system over steel Negligible deterioration of zinc-rich material



Demonstrated Benefits – Non-aqueous Electroplated Aluminum

- Potential drop-in replacement for Cadmium
- Does not demonstrate hydrogen embrittlement / environmentally assisted cracking issues
- Able to match torque / tension requirements for Cadmium (with dry-film lubricant)
- Performs well with trivalent chrome rinse
- Technology used by
 - Joint Strike Fighter (JSF)
 - BMW, VW and Volvo in automotive applications

Demonstrated Benefits – Galvanized Body Panels

- Galvanized sheet steel is commonly used in commercial automotive applications
- Manufacturing components out of galvanized steel is readily accomplished
- Modern Example
 - FMTV vehicles originally used carbon steel on cabs and experienced corrosion issues
 - Subsequent cabs were upgraded to galvanized steel with no reported issues



On body panels (like doors) corrosion often occurs along the bottom seam
Collection point for contaminants
No drainage / ability to clean out contaminants

First Platform – Stryker

Non-aqueous Electroplated Aluminum

- Majority of Cadmium replaced
- Hex-chrome rinse still being used
- Some components still use Cadmium
- Looking toward material as a single, drop-in replacement

High Build Polyurethane

- Concerns exist in wheel areas
- High impact area where coating loss can progress
- Once voids occur corrosion can progress rapidly
- Considering chipresistant materials for this application

Other Platforms

• HMMWV

- Review of past corrosion inspection data has identified several potential issues
- Battery areas and hold-down brackets
- Reflectors
- Latches, guides and brackets
- Material changes or coatings can improve these areas
- Engineering Equipment
 - Working with PMs to identify opportunities
 - Typically these are bought to commercial standards
 - Opportunities for the use of zinc-rich coatings on steel components

Other Platforms (cont'd)

• Trailers

Cargo beds known to be corrosion prone

- Typically thin-gage sheet steel with CARC coating
- Coating easily removed with normal installation / removal of cargo
- Use of chip-resistant materials can reduce this damage and protect both the substrate and CARC coating
- MRAP vehicles
 - Rapid procurement resulted in less stringent corrosion control requirements / enforcement
 - Add-on components (e.g., water can brackets, antenna mounts, etc.) are typically carbon steel
 - Opportunity to improve performance with zinc-rich coating and / or replacements
 - Reviewing use of Cadmium on systems for elimination

Cross-platform Initiative

- Single-source Cadmium replacement
 - Pending outcome of most recent test results, favoring non-aqueous electroplated aluminum
 - Provides similar or better performance than Cadmium
 - Working with DLA to determine how to most readily get this into the system
 - Eliminate the need to specify system-unique requirements
 - Eliminate recontamination of the system during maintenance

Status of Initiatives

 Non-aqueous electroplated aluminum Review of technical literature near completion Results of current testing expected in next 1-2 months Samples being prepared for Stryker demonstration • High-build polyurethane coatings Recent work by USMC being considered for implementation During Stryker demonstration review systems for coating demonstration Review of USMC trailer test cases planned

Status of Initiatives (cont'd)

• HMMWV

- Data analysis complete
- Meeting planned with PM to discuss opportunities and solutions
- Identify best solutions for implementation and move forward with demonstration
- Engineering Equipment
 - Briefed PM on solutions sets
 - Working with them on identification of specific opportunities and test systems

Cross-platform initiative

- Participating in DoD efforts on Cadmium and Hex-chrome elimination
- Drafting position letter to be issued by TACOM / TARDEC

Current Schedule

- Winter / Spring 2009
 - Stryker demonstrations
 - Polyurethane evaluations
 - Meeting with PM HMMWV and identify demonstration opportunities
 - Follow-up with PM Engineering Equipment

Spring / Summer 2009

- Complete all demonstrations
- Revisit Stryker for evaluation of technologies
- Compile application data for development of work instructions and ROI analysis

• Fall 2009

- Final report on technologies investigated
- Final maintenance instructions
- Develop plan for future investigations and ROI validation