



The Ford Meter Box Company, Inc.

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UNI-FLANGE® E-COAT

The Ford Meter Box Company provides a higher level of corrosion protection on restraint products with an epoxy applied, electro-coat (e-coat) process. The e-coat process has a pre-treatment that includes a cleaning and surface conditioning. The surface conditioning includes a zinc phosphate conversion coating. After pretreatment, the part is immersed in the electro-coat bath that consists of deionized water and epoxy solids. Electrical voltage flowing through the part and the coating bath is used to attract the epoxy solids to the metal surface. This process ensures the part has full and complete coverage including crevices. All coated components are then cured at high temperature. The resulting coating has excellent corrosion resistance, good appearance and good impact resistance.

Key aspects of the coating that are of significant to our customers:

1. Our coating is an epoxy. It is fusion bonded. It is not a Powder Fusion Bonded Epoxy.
2. The e-coat process results in a more complete and uniform coverage than application methods for powder coatings.
3. The e-coat process reduces the possibility of voids in the coating, especially within crevices, parting line shifts or fins.
4. Epoxy applied via the e-coat process is typically 0.4-1.5 mils (0.0004" – 0.0015") thick. This allows the advantage of coating all parts with epoxy while others must seek alternative coatings (typically Xylan) that do not have the corrosion resistance of a fusion bonded epoxy.
5. Epoxy applied via the e-coat process resists chipping and undercutting exceptionally well.

The e-coating process was developed to satisfy the needs of the automotive industry but has been an excellent coating for buried restraints. We have performed side-by-side corrosion testing with our major competitors and determined the Uni-Flange e-coat is equal or superior. Please consult Ford Meter Box, Pipe Products Division for more details.

THE FORD METER BOX COMPANY, INC.

Zach Prater
Product Sales Manager
Pipe Products and Uni-Flange