



Avantguard[®] 860 reduces downtime at fuel additive production facility

At this fuel additive production facility in the Middle East, a fast return to service after maintenance has a significant impact on bottom line performance. Therefore, when necessary maintenance was scheduled, the operator was keen to ensure it was completed as quickly as possible.

The challenge was the inorganic zinc silicate (IOZ) primer specified for the maintenance coating system. Due to low humidity and temperatures in the facility, curing time was over 24 hours - a massive delay that would result in long periods of downtime. Our solution was the activated zinc primer Avantguard 860, which cures in just 45 minutes at 20°C and in less than two hours in low humidity and low temperatures.

Working with Avantguard 860, the maintenance team was able to significantly reduce waiting time between coats, minimising downtime at the facility.

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Avantguard 860 cuts maintenance downtime to maximise production



The solution

Our solution was a three-coat system based on Avantguard 860, a high-performance activated zinc primer. Thanks to unique activated zinc technology, our Avantguard primers utilise three methods of corrosion protection; the barrier, inhibitor and galvanic effects. As a result, Avantguard coatings can provide the same or better corrosion protection than conventional IOZs. This helps extend coating lifetime and reduce maintenance requirements, while also reducing paint consumption and VOC emissions during application.

Avantguard primers also remain very easy to apply in less-than-ideal conditions. Avantguard 860 provides the best overcoating intervals in its class, even in low humidity and low temperatures (2 hours at 0°C). At the methanol and MTBE production facility, this was a significant improvement on the 24-hour curing time of the originally specified IOZ.

In the first maintenance cycle, Avantguard 860 was used on a limited number of areas, such as ladders and grating structures. Now that the coating has proven its worth – both in terms of speed of application and durability – the facility owner has decided to use it much more extensively in the next maintenance cycle.

At a glance

Project	Methanol and MTBE production facility in the Middle East
Coating system	Hempadur Avantguard 860 (65 microns) Hempadur Mastic 45881 (100 microns) Hempathane Topcoat 55210 (50 microns)

The challenge

When performing scheduled maintenance at a methanol and methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) production facility in the Middle East, the maintenance team hit a problem. The operator wanted to keep downtime to a minimum in order to maximise production time. However, the inorganic zinc silicate (IOZ) primer specified for the maintenance work made this a challenge.

IOZ coatings are extremely slow curing at the best of times. In the low humidity and low temperatures of the methanol and MTBE production facility, curing time was more than 24 hours. This wait between coats would cause a huge delay to the maintenance work, resulting in downtime and lost revenue at the facility.

Triple Activation with patented Avantguard® technology



In order to achieve full zinc utilisation, we combine zinc, our proprietary activator and hollow glass spheres. Avantguard is also the only zinc-rich primer to use all three methods of corrosion protection:

Barrier effect | Inhibitor effect | Galvanic effect

Triple Activation with patented Avantguard technology provides superior protection, durability and sustainability compared to standard zinc-rich primers. So you save on application and maintenance costs, while your assets last longer.

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