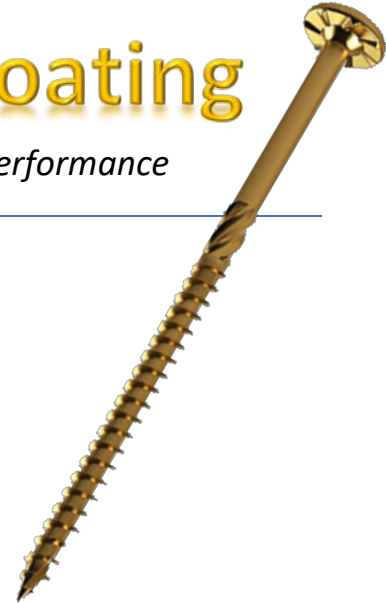




U2 Gold Coating

Modern design and high performance



Quick facts:

- U2 Gold coating is a proprietary multi-layer coating
- Does not contain any Chrome 6
- Compliant with all Prop 65 hazardous chemicals
- AC 257 in 0.6 pcf ACQ treated lumber compliant

Details:

Our proprietary U2 Gold coating consists of a multi-layered coating.

These are multiple films, formed by thin layers of a silver base and a golden top coating. The coating material does not contain any Chrome 6 or other chemical amounts listed on Proposition 65. Proposition 65, officially known as the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, was enforced as a ballot initiative in November 1986. This proposition protects California's drinking water sources from being contaminated with chemicals known to cause cancer, birth defects or other reproductive harm, and it requires businesses to inform Californians about exposures to such chemicals.

Our coating is AC257 compliant and 75 % more versatile in its application usage. It was tested in 0.6 pcf ACQ, a Heavy-Duty Ground Contact Lumber.

For the AC257 two types of test procedures needed to be completed to comply.

In these procedures fasteners are installed into the treated lumber and kerf cuts are made to ensure that the elevated moisture reaches the fastener shank during the test. The first is a cyclic test with alternate wet and dry cycles (ASTM G85, Annex A5; 1-hour dry-off and 1-hour fog). The second one is a continuous salt-spray test (ASTM B117, for exposure to condition #3, distilled water is used instead of salt water). The fasteners along with the wood are exposed for 1,440 hours in both tests, after which the corrosion on the benchmark coating (hot-dip galvanized) and alternate coating is visually graded side by side. To pass, the alternate coating needs to perform equally well or better than the benchmark.

Currently most competitive coatings are only tested in a 0.4 pcf wood treatment.

These are tough and extensive tests as part of the evaluation code approval process, as the fasteners are not only exposed to the moisture but also to the wood-treatment chemicals.