

AGC Chemicals

AGC Inc.

Shin-Marunouchi Building 1-5-1 Chiyoda-ku Tokyo 100-8405, Japan
TEL +81-3-3218-5040
FAX +81-3-3218-7843
URL <http://www.agc-chemicals.com>

AGC Chemicals Trading (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.

Room 2701-2705, Metro Plaza, 555 Lou Shan Guan Road, Chang Ning Ward, Shanghai, China Post Code: 200051
TEL +86-21-6386-2211
FAX +86-21-6386-5377 / 5378
URL <http://www.agcsh.com>

AGC Asia Pacific Pte., Ltd.

460 Alexandra Road, #32-01 PSA Building, Singapore, 119963
TEL +65-6273-5656
FAX +65-6271-3817
URL <http://www.agc-asiapacific.com>

AGC Chemicals (Thailand) Co., Ltd.

24th Floor, Bangkok Insurance Building 25 South Sathorn Road, Kwang Tungmahamek Khet Sathorn, Bangkok 10120
TEL +66-2-679-1600
FAX +66-2-677-3135
URL <http://www.acth.co.th>

AGC Chemicals Americas, Inc.

55 East Uwchlan Ave. Suite 201, Exton, PA 19341, USA
TEL +1-610-423-4300
FAX +1-610-423-4301
URL <http://www.lumiflonusa.com>

AGC Chemicals Europe, Ltd. Commercial Centre

World Trade Center Zuidplein 80 1077 XV Amsterdam, Netherlands
TEL +31 (0) 20 880 41-70, -77
FAX +31 (0) 20 880 4188
URL <http://www.agcce.com>

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Chemistry for a Blue Planet
AGC Chemicals



Fluorinated Resins for Ultra-Weatherable Coatings
LUMIFLON Resins for Bridges

Your Dreams, Our Challenge

Introduction

LUMIFLON™ was developed and commercialized by AGC in the early '80s and was the first solvent-soluble fluoropolymer for coatings. LUMIFLON™ FEVE resins exhibit superior resistance to weathering. They are used to formulate high performance coatings that maintain their appearance and protect against corrosion. The use of LUMIFLON™ resins can substantially reduce life cycle costs, including maintenance costs, replacement costs, and re-coating, which leads to conservation of resources and a reduction in the emission of VOCs. The results of long-term testing show the weatherability benefits of LUMIFLON™, but the real proof can be found on all the structures around the world utilizing LUMIFLON™ coatings. LUMIFLON™ FEVE is a fluoropolymer resin that can be used in eco-conscious designs by extending the life span of structures and reducing life cycle costs.



ISO 12944

ISO 12944 is an international standard for anti-corrosion coating systems. LUMIFLON's™ chemical structure, **"fluoroethylene vinyl ether copolymer (FEVE)" is described as a "Special type of PUR"**

Coatings passed the new ISO 12944-6 standard, category C5 (very high corrosive environment) and ISO 12944-9 test protocols. Under ISO 12944-9, the coatings were tested under categories CX (corrosivity in offshore environments) and IM4 (immersion). Tests were performed by the independent research laboratory, COT in Haarlem, The Netherlands.

Excerpt from ISO 12944-5 6.2.5 Paints for polyurethane coatings (PUR)

A special type of PUR is based on fluoropolymers. Paints for fluoropolymer/vinyl ether co-polymer (FEVE) coating are two pack coating materials, and both water-borne and solvent-borne types are available. Solvent-borne paints dry by solvent evaporation and cure by a chemical reaction between a base resin and a curing component. Paints for FEVE coatings are ambient curable materials cross-linked with isocyanate hardener. The resin of base component is fluoropolymer with free hydroxyl groups which reacts with suitable isocyanate curing agents. The drying time will depend, among other things, on air movement, relative humidity and temperature.

Paint system for carbon steel for corrosivity category C5

System No.	Priming coat				Subsequent coat (s)	Paint system		Durability			
	Binder type	Type of primer	No. of coats	NDFT in µm		Binder type	Total no. of coats	NDFT in µm	l	m	h
C5.04	EP, PUR, ESI	Misc.	1	80 to 200	EP, PUR, AY	3-4	360	✓	✓	✓	✓
C5.08	EP, PUR, ESI	Zn (R)	1	60 to 80	EP, PUR, AY	3-4	320	✓	✓	✓	✓

NOTE1 EP: Epoxy, PUR: Polyurethane, ESI: Ethyl silicate*, AY: Acrylic, Zn(R): Zinc-rich primer, Misc.: All other categories of primer
NOTE2 In addition to polyurethane technology, other coating technologies may be suitable, e.g. polysiloxanes, polyaspartic and fluoropolymer [Fluoroethylene/vinyl ether co-polymer(FEVE)].

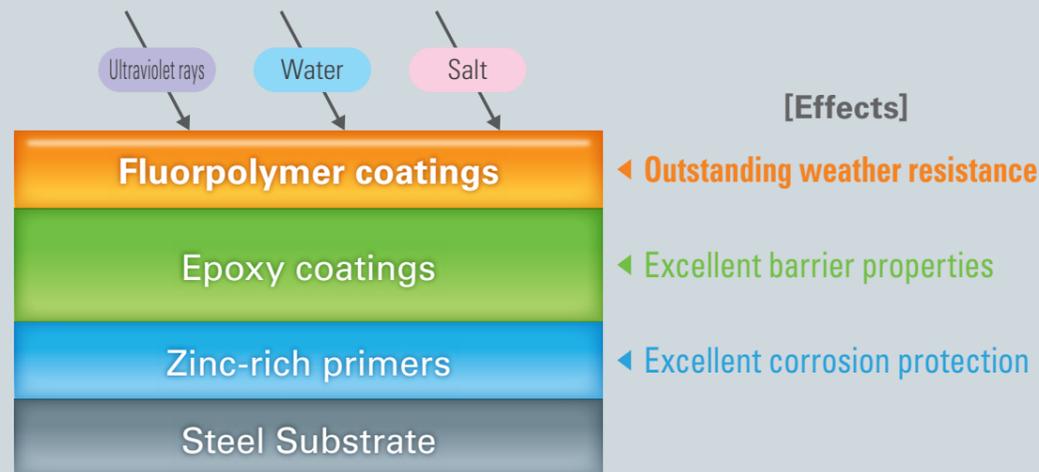
Category of Atmospheric Environments	Durability Levels	
	Durability type	Terms
C1	Very low corrosivity	Low (l)
C2	Low corrosivity	Medium (m)
C3	Medium corrosivity	High (h)
C4	High corrosivity	Very high (vh)
C5	Very high corrosivity	Up to 7 years
		7 years to 15 years
		15 years to 25 years
		More than 25 years

FUNCTION

LUMIFLON™ has a performance record of more than 30 years in real world applications

LUMIFLON's™ reliability has been verified by natural weathering experiments underway for more than 30 years.

Basics of Coating Systems in the New Handbook

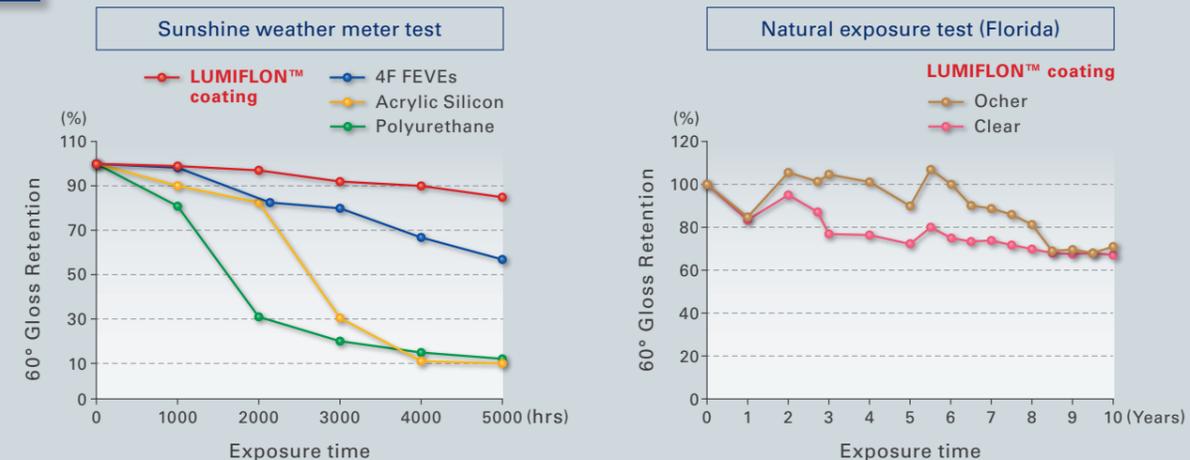


(from the New Handbook on Painting and Corrosion Prevention of Steel Highway Bridges, March, 2014)

WEATHER ABILITY

Weatherability data

LUMIFLON™ shows excellent weatherability compared to acrylics and polyurethanes and also outperforms other fluoropolymer resins.



PERFORMANCE

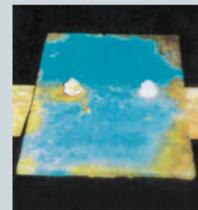
Exposure test

Duration: 5 years
Location: Ocean shore
New/Repaint: Repaint
Paint system: Heavy duty

Upper half of the plates are shown after wiping.
Bottom half of the plates are covered with salt.



LUMIFLON™ coating:
Good appearance



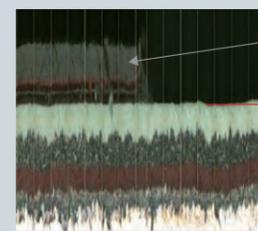
Chlorinated rubber coating:
Rust at the corners



Alkyd coating:
Covered with rust

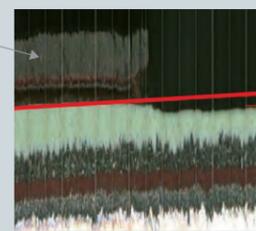
Erosion of Coating Over Time

In the fluoropolymer coating using LUMIFLON™, little wear was observed over the 15 year period. In contrast, wear of 2µm per year was observed in the polyurethane coating.



LUMIFLON™ coating
(after 15 years)

Film thickness reduction
0 to 1.1µm/15 years



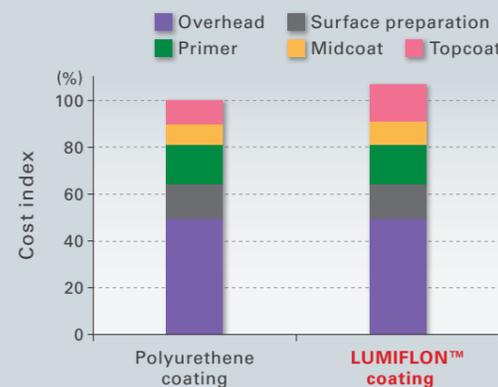
Polyurethane coating
(after 15 years)

Film thickness reduction
22 to 28µm/15 years

LIFE CYCLE COST

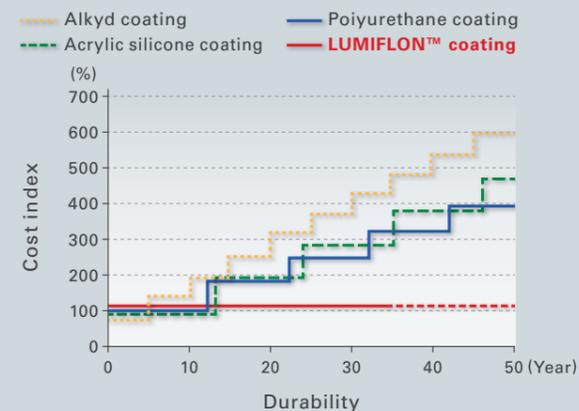
Coating cost comparison

Because LUMIFLON™ topcoats typically utilize the same surface preparation, primers and midcoats as traditional polyurethanes, the initial cost of a fluoropolymer system is only slightly higher than a more traditional polyurethane system.



Life cycle cost (LCC) composition

LUMIFLON™ based coatings offer long-term economic benefits as they maintain their appearance significantly longer than traditional systems eliminating one or more repainting costs as well as reducing maintenance costs.



ACTUAL PROJECT

Tokiwa Bridge

[Photo taken]
30 years after painting
(November 2016)

[Painted]
August 1986

[Environment]
Mountainous area

[New/re-paint]
Repainting

[Original Coating]
Chlorinated rubber

[Painting Specification]
Surface preparation : St 3 (ISO)
Primer : Modified epoxy coatings
Intermediate and top coats:
LUMIFLON™-based fluorourethane



- Gloss retention is almost 100%
- Frequent use of road salt for de-icing in winter
- Scenery can be seen reflected in the high gloss of fluorourethane coating.

Daiichi Mukaiyama Bridge

[Photo taken]
29 years after painting
(November 2016)

[Painted]
August 1987 (Fluoropolymer coatings)
August 1986 (Polyester coating)

[Environment]
Mountainous area

[New/re-paint]
New Construction

[Painting Specification]
Surface preparation : St 2 1/2 (ISO)
Middle coat : Epoxy coating
Intermediate and top coats :
LUMIFLON™-based fluorourethane

Surface preparation : St 2 1/2 (ISO)
Primer : Zinc-based anticorrosive coating
Intermediate and top coats : Alkyd coating



- The LUMIFLON™ based coating shows excellent gloss retention and no chalking.
- Dirt is visible in the photograph but coating quality is not affected.



- The Alkyd coating were excessively deteriorated after only 16 years.

LUMIFLON™ Projects for Heavy duty

The superior durability and weatherability of LUMIFLON™ FEVE resin based coatings are recognized and proven by the projects using these coatings all over the world. LUMIFLON™ will continue to protect and maintain the beauty of structures from the deserts of North Africa to the wet and rainy coasts of the Gulf of Mexico and even to the mountains of Japan.

EUROPE

CHINA

AMERICA

ASIA

JAPAN



Adige Bridge (Italy)



Expo Bridge (Italy)



Gleisbogen Bridge (Swiss)

Finzels Reach Bridge (England)



Liufang Bridge (Taiwan)



Aura Boulevard Bridge (Australia)



Yeongjung Bridge (Korea)



Nhat Tan Bridge (Vietnam)



Lhasa River Bridge (Lhasa City)



Guanting Railway Grand Bridge (Beijing)



Boynton Inlet Bridge (Florida)



Skydance bridge (Oklahoma)
Photo: Tim Hursley



Topeka Boulevard Bridge (Kansas)



Tokyo Gate Bridge (Tokyo)



Akashi Kaikyo Bridge (Hyogo)



Rainbow Bridge (Tokyo)



TOKYO SKYTREE™ (Tokyo)



Pingtan Bridge (Pingtan, Fujian)