

# I Can't See the Difference...Can You See the Difference?



*AcrylaThane coated Fireguard tanks waited to be installed in the City of Vandalia, OH*



*AcrylaThane Coated Fireguard tanks after six years in service storing fuel for the City of Vandalia*

Compare photos of these tanks before installation with photos taken after six years of service. You almost can't tell the difference.

Two of the first tanks ever coated with Madison's AcrylaThane aliphatic polyurethane coating were installed at the municipal garage in Vandalia, OH, about 50 miles southwest of Columbus. At the time, the tanks looked bright white and brand spanking new. After six years of service storing fuel for the city's municipal vehicles, the twin 10,000 gallon steel Fireguard tanks are still in excellent condition — they look almost as good as the day they were delivered.

As expected, there is some minor corrosion around the lifting lugs

where the coating was damaged during installation and on one of the saddles where the coating was applied at a much lower thickness than recommended. Otherwise, the AcrylaThane coating is in great shape and there are no strap marks or other signs of handling damage.

Even where one of the support saddles is repeatedly immersed in rain water due to an uneven concrete pad, there are no signs of corrosion. The interior surface of the spill containment area, where there is a thick layer of gasoline and sludge, shows absolutely no coating degradation. Everything is still in tip top shape.

You may be wondering how to achieve this level of corrosion protection. Well, these tanks were

manufactured and coated by Hamilton Welding of Columbus, Ohio in 1994.

Surface preparation consisted of a standard commercial blast and the coating was applied in a single coat using conventional airless spray equipment—no primer. Four hours later, the AcrylaThane coating had cured hard enough to load the tanks on to a truck and ship them down the road.

This fast, cost effective application combined with the coating's excellent performance convinced Hamilton Welding, and many other tank fabricators, to offer AcrylaThane as their standard above ground tank external coating system. Contact Madison for information about AcrylaThane and other tank coatings.



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