

How Powder Coating Protects Your Business **Furniture Investment**

Many business owners receive poorly made furniture without corrosion protection. Read our comparison article on powder coating vs paint on metal parts!

AUSTIN, TEXAS, UNITED STATES, September 14, 2018 / EINPresswire.com/ -- Powder coating the metal surfaces of our industrialstrength furniture is just one of the ways that Formaspace ensures its products are long-lasting, which is reflected in our 12-year guarantee.

What is Powder Coating and how does it protect your Furniture Investment?

We are often asked this question: What is powder coating and why is it so effective at preventing corrosion and protecting metal parts?



Metal chair setup

For example, higher-end bicycle frames have been powder-coated for many years. Powder coating protects the metal parts (like our bench frames) from corrosion. It also provides a much tougher surface to withstand rough wear and tear compared to traditional painted surfaces.

You may have had your first encounter with powder coated parts without even realizing it.

The powder coating process produces a thin but very tough film of thermoplastic that fully envelops metal parts. During the heat curing process, the thermoplastic powder begins to melt, forming a smooth gel that blends over the metal surface

The final product is a tough yet resilient, hardened layer of plastic that provides a level of corrosion and 'wear and tear' protection far superior to traditional corrosion protection treatments, such as chrome plating, zinc coating or painting.

HAVE YOU BEEN A 'VICTIM' OF CORROSION?

So why do we go to all this trouble here at Formaspace to powder coat the metal parts in our furniture products? The reason is we build our products to last.

Of course, not every manufacturer takes the time to protect their products. But then again, not every manufacturer stands behind their products with a 12-year guarantee the way Formaspace does.

Have you purchased a product only to discover that it rusts to pieces before your very eyes?

In recent years many of us have experienced poorly made products without adequate corrosion protection. Do one or more of these scenarios seem familiar?

You or a friend purchased an imported children's bicycle from a deep discount store and the frame, wheels and fenders become hopelessly corroded within the first year or two. You or a friend purchased a shiny new pair set of "metro" style storage shelves, and within a couple of years, they have rusted so badly you have to move them from the kitchen pantry to the back of the garage.

You or a friend purchased a basic white refrigerator. Within a few years, bubbles of rusted metal begin to appear, first near the compressor, then at the hinges, and finally near the handle and seams.

ACCORDING TO RESEARCHERS, CORROSION COSTS AMERICANS BILLIONS OF DOLLARS

Back in 1972, the National Association of Corrosion Engineers (NACE), estimated that corrosion cost the American economy \$10 billion dollars a year; this estimate was soon raised to \$70 billion by Battelle Research Institute. By 2001, some experts believed the total cost of combating corrosion on our nation's infrastructure, including repairing or replacing corroded bridges, traditional and nuclear power plants, water delivery and sewer piping systems was well north of \$600 billion dollars.

In 2013, NACE conducted an updated world-wide economic study, which estimated that corrosion costs the global economy \$2.5 trillion dollars — or 3.4% of the world's global Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

What can be done? NACE encourages organizations to <u>implement a thorough Corrosion</u> <u>Management System (CMS)</u> to reduce economic losses due to waste caused by corrosion.

THE FORMASPACE CORROSION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM: POWDER COATING OVER AMERICAN-MADE STEEL

We're doing our part to fight corrosion. Here at Formaspace, we take a comprehensive, multistep approach to maximize the life of our furniture products – by taking these steps to prevent corrosion:

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We use the highest-quality, American-made raw materials for making our products. For example, we only use top quality, locally-sourced American-made steel.

We manufacture all our products in the USA, here at our 60,000 square-foot factory in Austin, Texas.

We build all of our furniture to order, including performing all the necessary sheet metal fabrication, milling, and welding.

We have an industrial powder coating facility on-site, which allows us to powder coat all metal parts on site (including shelving, cabinetry, doors and heavy-duty frames) – without the need for any parts to leave the building before they are fully protected against corrosion.

All parts are assembled to check for fit and finish, then carefully disassembled and packed for shipment to you, our client.

These steps allow us to provide the highest quality protection against corrosion. That's another solid reason why we stand behind our work with our full 12-year guarantee, one of the longest in the furniture business.

WHAT'S THE PROCESS FOR MANUFACTURING POWDER COATING MATERIAL AND APPLYING IT TO FURNITURE?

Let's look at each step of Powder Coating in more detail.

Preparing the Raw Powder Coating Material

First up is the manufacture of the raw material used in powder coating, which comes in dry granular form. The process the supplier uses to make these granules starts with mixing batches of polymer plastic together with colorants and other chemicals to produce a particular color shade – with unique surface characteristics, such as matte or full gloss surface finish, built-in UV protection, etc. Once the plastic mixture is ready, it's rolled out into flat sheets, which are then sliced into thin strips, then chopped into small granules, known as 'chips.' Formaspace then purchases this raw powder coating material from the supplier to coat the metal components of our furniture.

Preparing the Metal for Powder Coating

After the unfinished metal furniture components are completed at one end of the Formaspace factory floor, they are transferred to our powder coating line. Here, the bare metal surfaces are cleaned again using a phosphate detergent to remove any residual surface contamination (such as protective oil coatings) then the metal parts are baked in an oven to remove all moisture before starting the powder coating process.

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