

COPPERCOAT

AN AUCKLAND CASE STUDY . . .

Some say Coppercoat antifouling can be expensive, but it claims it can actually save you time and money as it lasts many years and removes the hassle of scrubbing and re-antifouling your boat every year. Does it last in New Zealand waters and is it really worth the investment?

Wayne Carson faced these two questions six years ago when he purchased 'Wicked A', a beautiful 40ft Wavercrusher launch. The previous owner had applied Coppercoat when it was first built nine years earlier. Once Carson purchased 'Wicked A', the question to recoat with Coppercoat was an easy one.

Fast forward six years - would Carson recommend this product to others? "Yes I definitely would, particularly from new; Coppercoat has such a long life with minimal cost. 'Wicked A' has been moored at Buckland's Beach Yacht Club for six years. Whilst our neighbours complain about growth on their boats we have not had any issues at all. A yearly

Boating NZ further reinforces this, with a New Plymouth boat that has 11 years of trouble free fouling.

COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS

When considering Coppercoat versus traditional antifouling paint, a number of questions arise, many of which have been put to Carson over the years.

How does it work ?

Coppercoat is the combination of a specially developed two-pack epoxy resin and 99% pure copper. On immersion, sea water attacks the exposed pure copper powder, causing the formation of cuprous oxide. This highly effective anti-fouling agent deters growth until the surface degrades further to become cupric hydrochloride.



Smooth hull from Coppercoat

pure copper powder and two-pack epoxy resin, the coating is both strong and water-proof. After application the coating can be burnished to give a very smooth racing finish which, as the coating is non-absorbent, is the equivalent of dry-sailing a boat but with the advantage of anti-fouling protection allowing the boat to be kept afloat.

Will the smooth Coppercoat surface make my boat go faster?

Yes. The smooth surface provided by Coppercoat epoxy anti-foul helps any boat to perform to its full potential.

No! Applying Coppercoat is possibly the most cost-effective way to protect a submerged surface from marine growth. Over the treatments' typical life of 10 years, the cost in product alone will commonly be only 15 to 30% of the product cost associated with conventional single-season anti-fouls (depending on which brand you use). This does not take into account additional items such as lift costs, storage fees, labour, inflation etc which make a Coppercoat treatment even more financially attractive.

How is Coppercoat applied and what tools are needed?

Specifically designed to be user friendly, this solvent-free non-toxic coating should be mixed thoroughly, one unit at a time, and simply applied to the prepared surface by roller or spray. A simple step by step application video can be viewed on MEC Marine's website.

How long does Coppercoat take to apply?

A treatment of Coppercoat is typically applied in one day, with the multiple coats being applied "wet on tacky".

Is Coppercoat suitable for use on a racing yacht?

Yes. As Coppercoat is a blend of

While traditional anti-fouls absorb moisture and become rough over time, Coppercoat retains its impermeable and smooth surface. In fact, many owners experience an increase in speed after applying Coppercoat.

Coppercoat can be used on all marine vessels, commercial and leisure, and when Carson was asked if it would favour the likes of game fishing boats or charter boats he replied, "I do not think it matters what type of vessel, as the same low cost benefits apply when compared to traditional antifouls".

'Wicked A' has recently been sold and Carson has purchased a new vessel. Will he be considering Coppercoat for his new boat? "Yes we will definitely be seeking the services of MEC Marine Limited for a full Coppercoat application".

Coppercoat is sold by MEC Marine Ltd, who actively promote Coppercoat at the 'On the Water Boat Show' and through leading boating publications.

Visit their website at www.mecmarine.co.nz to view full details or phone 09 525 1114.



Burnished hull exposing fresh copper

pressure wash and burnish after four years, as suggested by the importers MEC Marine Ltd, is all that is required".

Evidence suggests that Coppercoat does in fact work in New Zealand waters and it stands up to the claims by their English manufacturer that 10 years plus is true. In 'Wicked A's case, Carson believes "another 4-5 years will easily be achieved".

Recent literature published in

Can Coppercoat be applied to all types of boats?

Yes. Coppercoat can be successfully applied to virtually all craft, irrespective of their size and usage. It is used in both the commercial and leisure sectors. Coppercoat is also supplied to underwater structures such as tide-powered turbines.

Is Coppercoat expensive when compared to traditional anti-fouls?

Order direct from NZ distributor:



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