



ENHANCING SECURITY AND LONGEVITY: THE BENEFITS OF COATINGS ON HUCK LOCKBOLTS

By Howmet Fastening Systems Industrial

LockBolts, renowned for their strength and reliability, are a reliable solution for joining materials in a multitude of industries. These fasteners offer a unique combination of strength, reliability, and security, making them indispensable in applications ranging from automotive to construction.

To enhance their performance and longevity, coatings play a pivotal role. Coatings provide a layer of protection, offering numerous benefits that contribute to the overall effectiveness of the joint, including:

- Corrosion resistance
- Enhanced security
- Improved aesthetics

Types of Coatings

A common first line of defence against corrosion is zinc electroplating. This process creates a thin, adherent layer of zinc on the metal surface. However, for additional protection or specific aesthetic requirements, organic coatings can be used, either by themselves or over electroplate. Selecting the right combination of electroplate and organic coating depends on the specific application's environmental demands and desired finish.

Corrosion Resistance

One of the primary advantages of applying coatings to LockBolts is for corrosion resistance. Huck LockBolts are perfect for safety-critical applications, and this means they are often subjected to harsh environmental conditions, including moisture, saltwater exposure, and chemical agents. Without proper protection, these conditions can lead to corrosion, compromising the integrity of the fasteners and jeopardising the structural stability of the application.

Coatings act as a barrier, shielding the LockBolts from corrosive elements and preventing the onset of rust and degradation. By effectively sealing the surface of the fasteners, coatings significantly extend their lifespan, reducing maintenance requirements and replacement costs over time. This is particularly crucial in industries such as marine, offshore, and transportation, where corrosion can pose significant safety risks.



Two collars showing the difference in corrosion after three weeks of salt spray on coated and uncoated surfaces.

Enhanced Security

Security is paramount in many industries, particularly those involving critical infrastructure, transportation, and defence. Huck LockBolts offer exceptional joint integrity, vibration resistance and tamper-proofing. The right choice of coating ensures that the connection holds securely under the harshest conditions.

Improved Aesthetics

Applying coatings to LockBolts can also transform the look of the LockBolt. Coatings can offer the possibility of colour customisation – allowing the matching of the LockBolts to the surrounding structure which is particularly beneficial for architectural applications where exposed fasteners are unavoidable. Colour customisation can also assist with camouflaging the LockBolts, making them virtually invisible and blending seamlessly with the surrounding material. This creates a clean and uncluttered aesthetic, particularly valuable for design-sensitive projects.

Huck Recommends

For applications in harsh environments, Huck recommends the BobTail® fastener paired with J43, J44, J45, J46, J57, J58 or J68 coatings. Unlike competitor LockBolts BobTail® features a pintail-less design that eliminates the risk of corrosion associated with pin break after installation, providing superior durability and long-term performance even in the most demanding conditions.

Conclusion

In conclusion, applying coatings to Huck LockBolts offers a multitude of benefits. Not only do they significantly enhance corrosion resistance, crucial for applications in harsh environments, but they can also improve security and aesthetics.

With a variety of coating options available, Huck LockBolts can be tailored to meet the specific needs of each project, ensuring both optimal function and a desired finish.

	FINISH	NEUTRAL SALT SPRAY TEST DURATION (HRS)*	COLOUR
G		48	Silver
GA		72	Silver
UA		96	Gold / Yellow

D1		500	Grey
DL		1000	Grey
BL	Collar Only	72	Black
J5		600	Grey
J43	Pin Only	720	Grey
J44	Collar Only	720	Silver
J45	Pin Only	1440	Grey
J46	Collar Only	1440	Grey
J57	Pin Only	2000	Grey
J58	Collar Only	2000	Grey
J68		3000	Grey
J63		720	Metallic
J73		500	Silver
J87		1000	Metallic

**Resistance against red rust, tests performed to ISO 9227 standard*

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