

2008 SWAP MEET AND SHOW GUIDE

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HOW-TO

Refurbish Your
Taillights
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KBS Coatings

Stop rust forever!

BY EARL DUTY ■ KBS COATINGS CLAIMS IT HAS CHEMICAL APPLICATIONS TO CONQUER ANY FORM OF RUST—THAT DEADLY COMBINATION OF BARE METAL, MOISTURE, AND OXYGEN—THAT CAN AFFLICT ALL OF OUR PRECIOUS OLD CARS. WE RECENTLY TESTED THE COMPANY'S FRAME COATER SYSTEM, WHICH WAS DESIGNED TO COAT AND SEAL AUTOMOTIVE AND TRUCK FRAMES.

We prepared for the test by dividing a length of steel channel—already wearing a generous covering of surface rust—into three equal parts. We sandblasted the right third down to bare metal, and

the left third was lightly cleaned with a wire brush. We left the middle part untouched and untreated.

We treated the right third to an application of Rust Blast, which etched

the metal and gave it a zinc phosphate coating. Once this first treatment had dried, it received a coat of Rust Seal. This final coat of sealer was then allowed to cure before any additional tests were performed to see if it had, in fact, adhered to the metal as promised.

We then turned our attention to the left third. To shake things up a bit, we gave the left third a bath in the supplied Aqua Klean. This was followed by the process outlined above with Rust Blast

1 This image shows the metal we used to test the KBS Coatings products—wire-brushed on the left, untouched in the middle, and sandblasted on the right.

2 We started the application by giving the right side of the metal its first coat of Rust Seal.

3 The next step was to coat the left side.

4 The metal sat for several months outdoors, with an occasional saltwater bath.

5 After several tests, including sandblasting the whole piece, we were only able to scratch the surface with an industrial grinder. That's certainly more damage than what your daily driver is likely to see.

and Rust Seal.

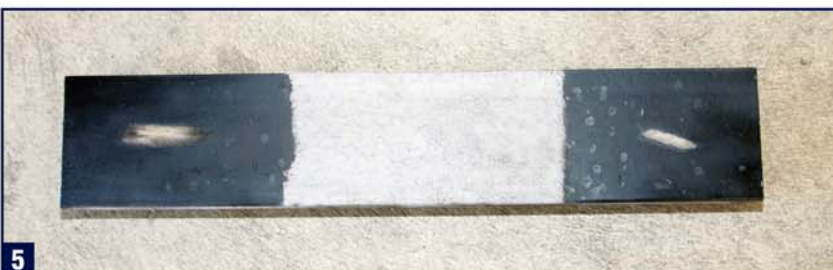
To give it the ultimate test we placed the piece of metal outside where Mother Nature worked on it for a few months. During this extreme exposure time, we added a little insult to injury by occasionally pouring a mixture of salt and water evenly across the entire section of steel.

Once we felt the metal had suffered enough, we checked the adhesion of the sealer on the corners, where the sealant had been applied to one uncleaned corner to purposely test the product's claims. We used a metal scraper to see if any sealer could be peeled or chipped off, but were not able to damage the finish. Even our hammer test failed to cause harm to the satin black sealant.

In a final attempt to see just how tough this stuff is, we sandblasted the full length of the steel, and were only able to clean up the rusty middle third. Only an industrial grinder managed to make any marks against the Rust Seal layers.

To the best of our observation, this product performed exactly as promised by the company. It was also very convenient, as easy to use as any liquid coating (paints, primers, adhesives, and such), which means it can also be as messy. According to KBS Coatings, "If this product dries on your skin, only time will remove it." Application can be applied with a brush, roller, or spray gun. KBS sells a large selection of tools and metal coating products, including coatings in a wide variety of colors.

Caution: Follow all directions to the letter and wear supplied body protection. It takes a product with powerful chemicals such as this to defeat rust. ■



SOURCE

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