

“Coverage” and HoldTight®102

HoldTight®102 is not a coating. It performs its two principal functions as an adjunct to and enhancement of pressure washing with water (and/or wet abrasive blasting, or “wet jet” blasting, or “water jetting”). Thus, the question “How much ‘102’ must I apply to a given area?” is irrelevant. The relevant, and indeed only meaningful question is, “How much **HoldTight®102** will I use when I blast and/or pressure wash a specific area, given the equipment I am using (specifically, water consumption in a given amount of time) and the “production rate” (specifically, how much surface area do I cover in a given amount of time)?” The answer to that question determines how much of the product will be required.

With regard to washing down surfaces after dry abrasive blasting --

We know from experience that **102**-treated water applied at flow rates of less than 1 gpm under less than 500 psi at the surface is not sufficient to remove abrasive dust, shattered corrosion products, and tiny paint particles, even when the surface has been “blown” clean with air only. (In fact, “blowing” a surface clean of dust generated by the abrasive blasting operation may result in adding contaminants to the surface from the compressor.) When such contaminants remain on the surface, flash rusting will occur.

We also know from experience that the cleanest surfaces are achieved with **102**-treated water under 3,000 psi at 2-3 gpm. In most cases 2 gpm at 1500 psi will be sufficient. At these recommended flow rates and pressures operator productivity is simply not a critical factor. The water flow and pressure, NOT the “dwell time”, are the determining factors (the “controlling variables”) so long as the water is treated with **102**. If the operator, in those cases, moves the wash wand or tip very quickly over all the targeted surface, he will use less **HoldTight®102** without jeopardizing surface cleanliness. If he moves slowly, he will use more **HoldTight®102** but will achieve the same result. Based on experience reported to us by many customers, these operations typically “clean” 500 to 1000 square feet per hour. (Production rate is of course a function of operator skill and strength, surface flatness vs. surface irregularities, and constraints imposed by positioning equipment, scaffolding, lifts, etc.)

If the water does not contain **HoldTight®102** in the recommended ratio the surfaces will flash. If the water is significantly substandard (in terms of chlorides or other contaminants and/or carbonates [hardness]) as discussed in our literature on the subject, the surfaces might “flash” or “turn” even with **102** (or, for that matter, any additive that purports to remove contaminants). In such cases, either increasing the **102** to water ratio or pre-cleaning the water or some combination of both will be necessary.

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