# Field Repair of IVD Aluminum Coatings on High-Strength Steels Using Kinetic Metallization<sup>TM</sup>

17th AeroMat Conference & Exposition May 15-18, 2006 Ralph M.Tapphorn

### Sacrificial Coatings for High-Strength Steels

#### Cadmium & Chromate Conversion Sealants

- Historical corrosion protection coatings
- Environmentally Hazardous
  - ► EO13148
    - All Federal Agencies
    - ► Toxic Chemicals, Hazardous Substances, and Pollutants Reduced by 50% by 12/31/2006

#### Cd Alternatives

- ► Ion Vapor Deposition (IVD) of Aluminum
  - Class I, Type II chromate conversion sealant
  - ► IVD process is **NOT** applicable for field repairs
- ► Alumiplate<sup>SM</sup> (toluene based plating)
  - Primarily applicable to fasteners
  - ► Alumiplate<sup>SM</sup> is **NOT** applicable for field repairs
- Electroplating
  - Zn, Zinc-Ni & Zinc-Sn
  - Brush plating for field repairs

Technology Search for Environmentally Sustainable Field Repair of IVD-AI Coatings

### Field Repair Process for IVD-Al

- NAVAIR SBIR Solicitation N04-023
  - Field repair technology development for IVD-AI
  - Meeting current environmental laws/regulations
  - ► Performance requirements at Navy Maintenance levels
- ► Kinetic Metallization<sup>™</sup> NAVAIR Funded Project
  - Phase I SBIR 2004 (KM feasibility project)
  - Phase IIA SBIR 2005 (field repair development)
    - ► Al based coating formulations using KM process
    - ► Portable KM handheld gun & spraying techniques
  - Phase IIB SBIR 2006 (JTP-2003 Qualification Testing)

What Is Kinetic Metallization<sup>TM</sup>?

#### Kinetic Metallization Basics

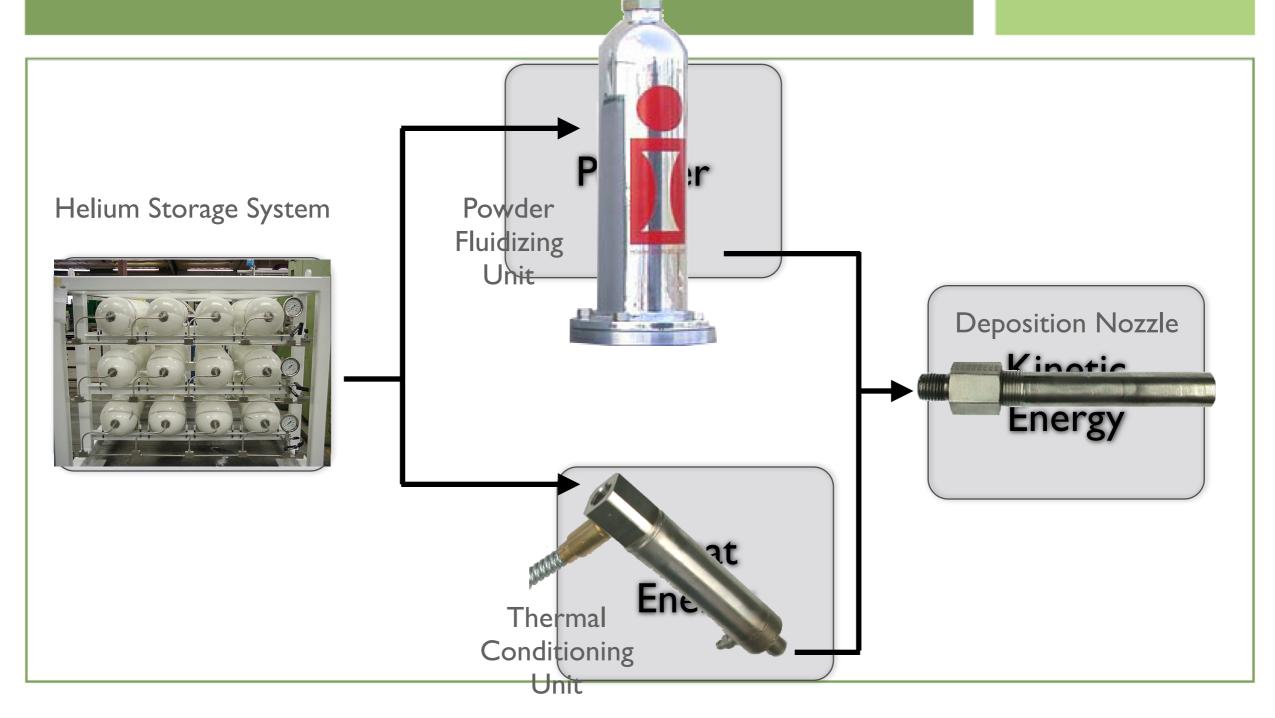
- ► Impact Consolidation Process
  - Feed-stock: fine powder,
  - Accelerant: inert light gas
- Solid-state Consolidation
  - No melting
  - No liquid chemicals

- KM Sonic Nozzle
  - Friction compensated
  - Low pressure (50 psig)
  - ► Low gas flow (7.5 SCFM)
- Environmentally Innocuous
  - No hazardous substances

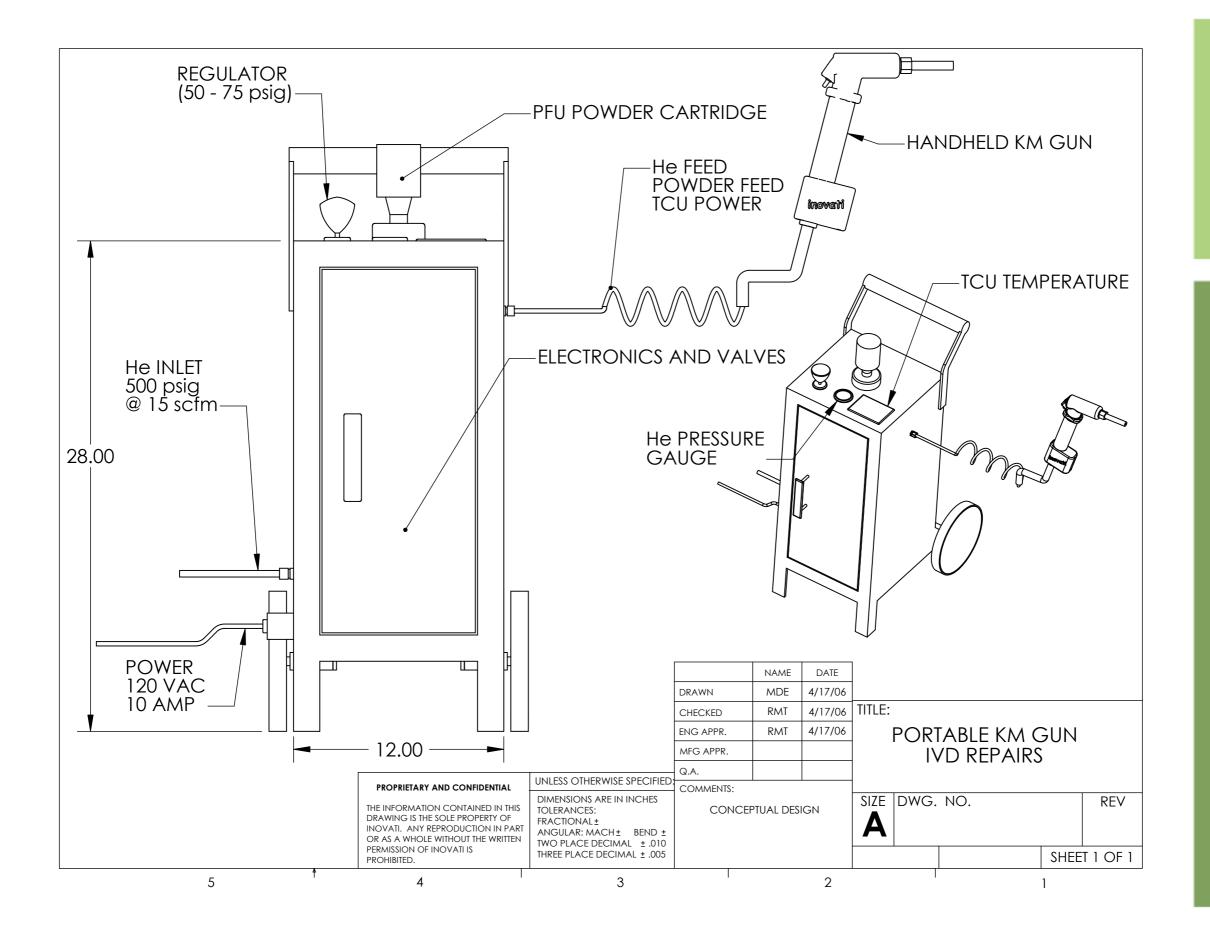
Coating

Substrate





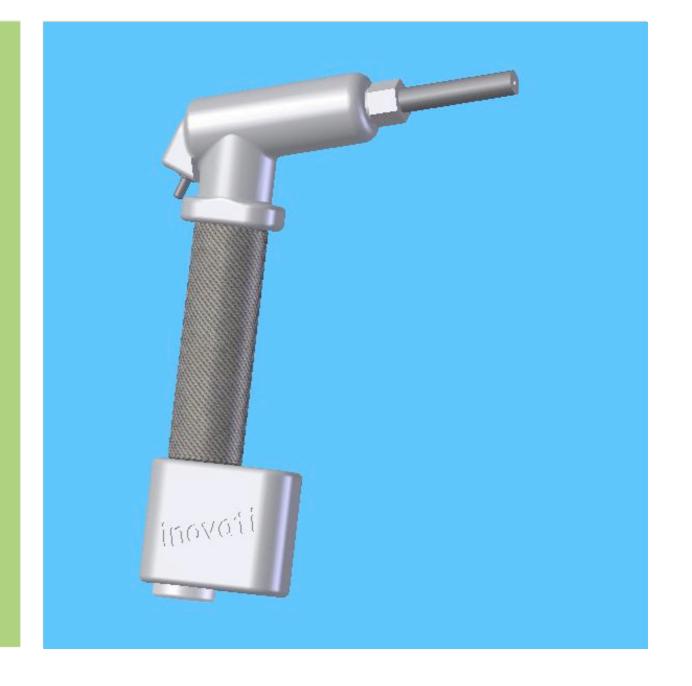
Field Repair Techniques using Handheld Kinetic Metallization<sup>TM</sup> Gun



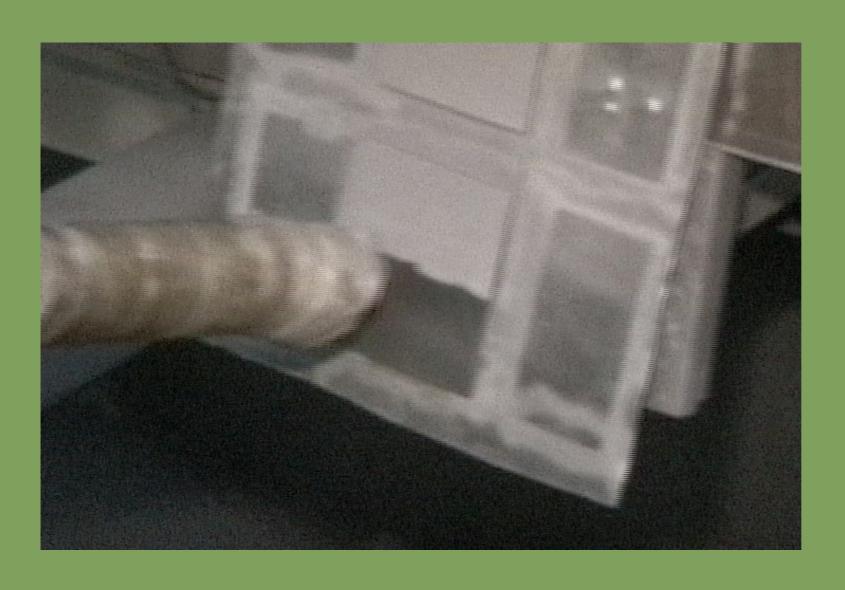


#### Handheld KM Gun

- ► Portable KM System
  - ► Enable Field Repairs



### Portable KM Gun



- ▶ Handheld Gun
  - Real Time
  - ► I-cm Standoff
  - ▶ 5-mm Stripe
  - OverlappingStrokes
  - Multi-layers

KM
AI-Trans®
Properties
&
Performance

#### KM Al-Trans®

- Aluminum + Transition Metal Composite
  - Blended Powder Feedstock
    - ► Transition Metal Admixtures Cr, Ni, Co, V, Ti, Cu
    - ► Admixture Concentration: 25-30% by Volume
- ► Al-Trans® (Cr) Formulation Developed 1999
  - ► Electrically conductive coating for telecommunication racks
  - Replacement of Zn-Chromate conversion coatings
  - Improved coating adhesion compared to CP-AI for KM process

#### KM Al-Trans®

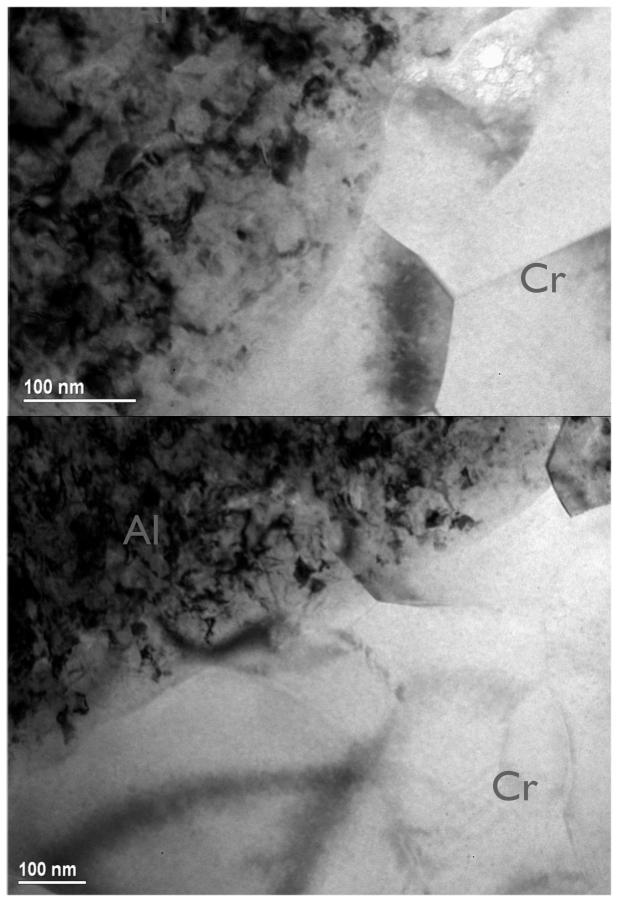
- ► Al-Trans®
  - Aluminum \_\_\_\_
  - Chromium ——
- ► Adhesion
  - ► Steel, ASTM B571
  - Paint, ASTM D2794, 120 ft-lb
- ► Corrosion
  - ► ASTM B117, 5000 hours

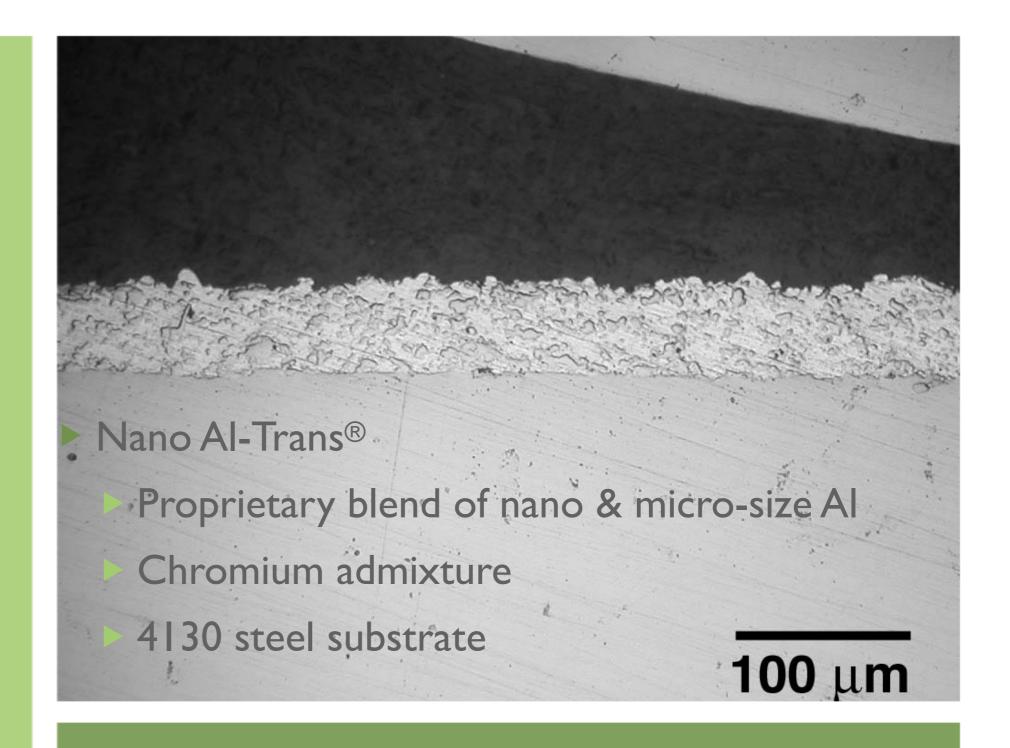
Steel Substrate

#### TEM

Tight Al-Cr interface
Superb cohesion
Upper image 140,000X original

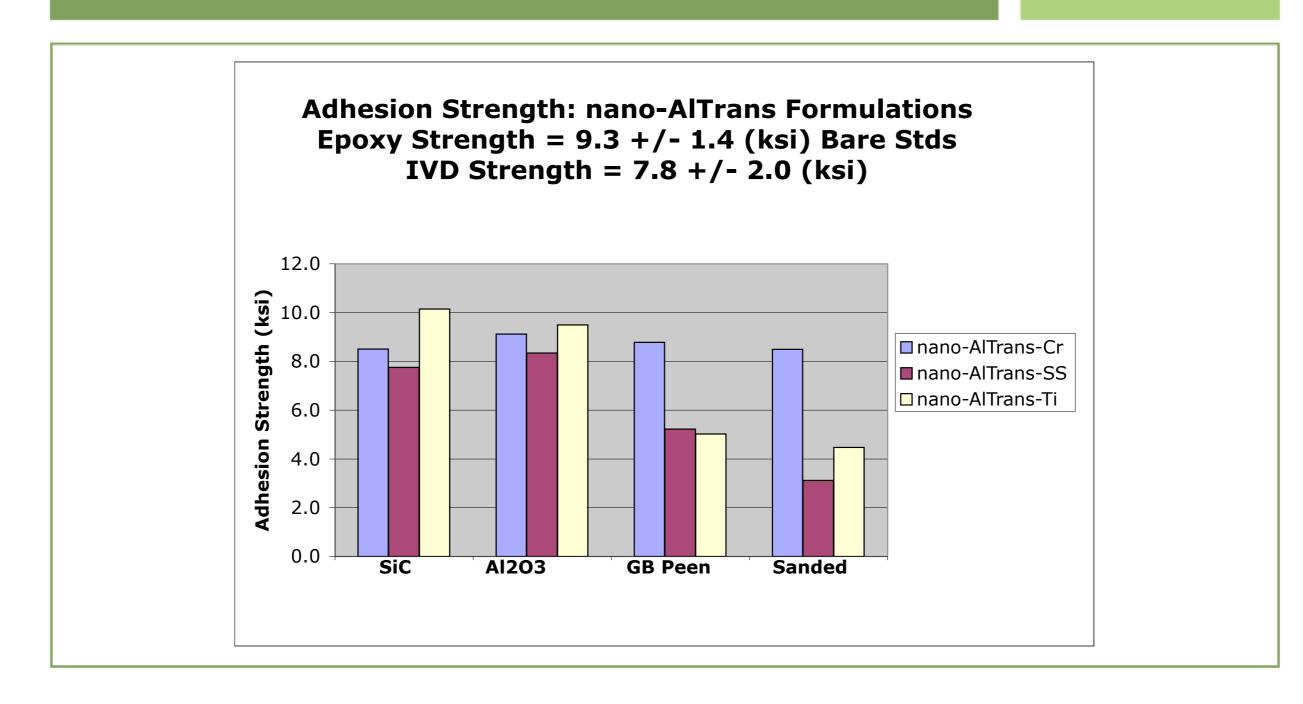






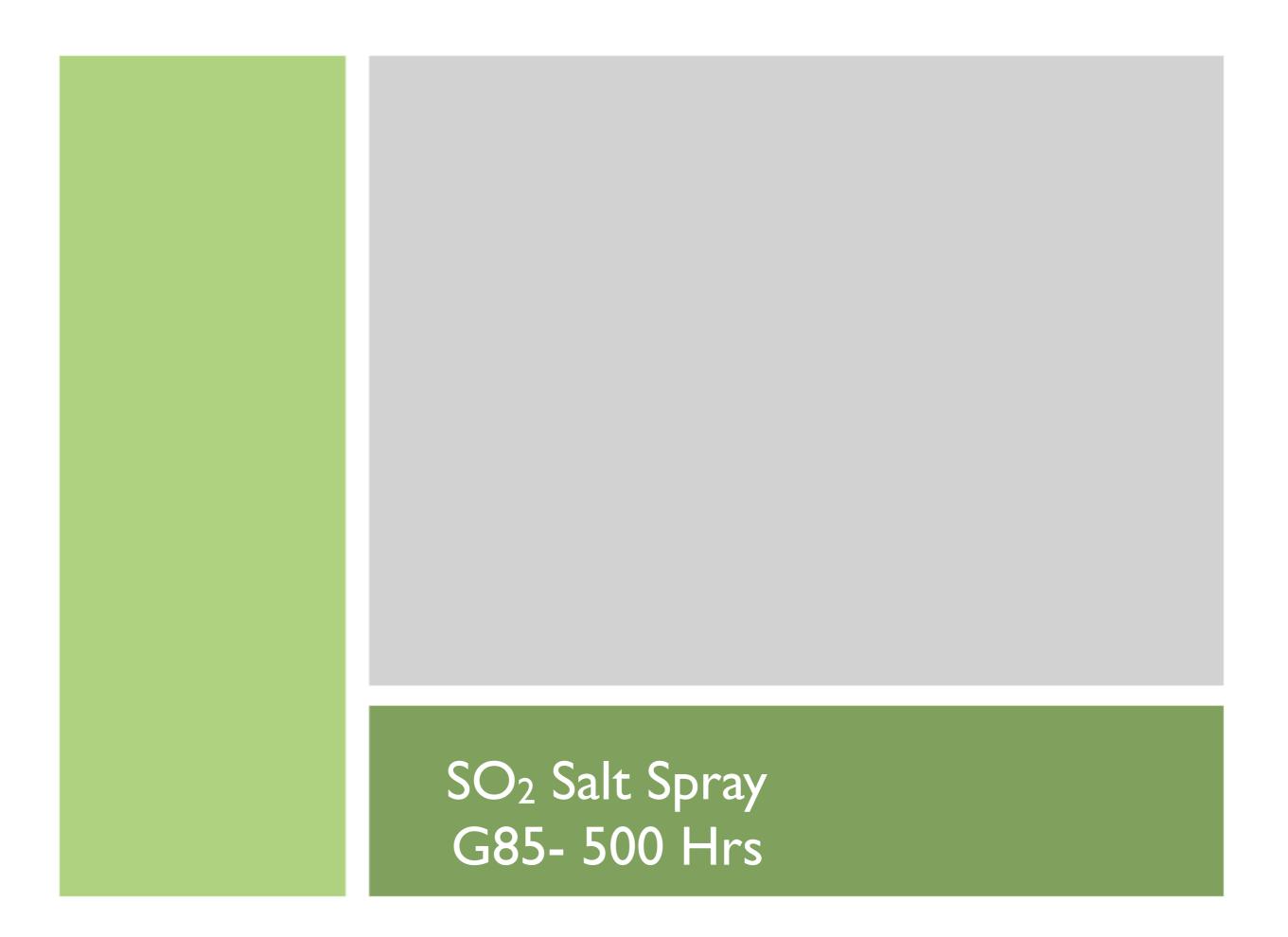
#### Nano Al-Trans®

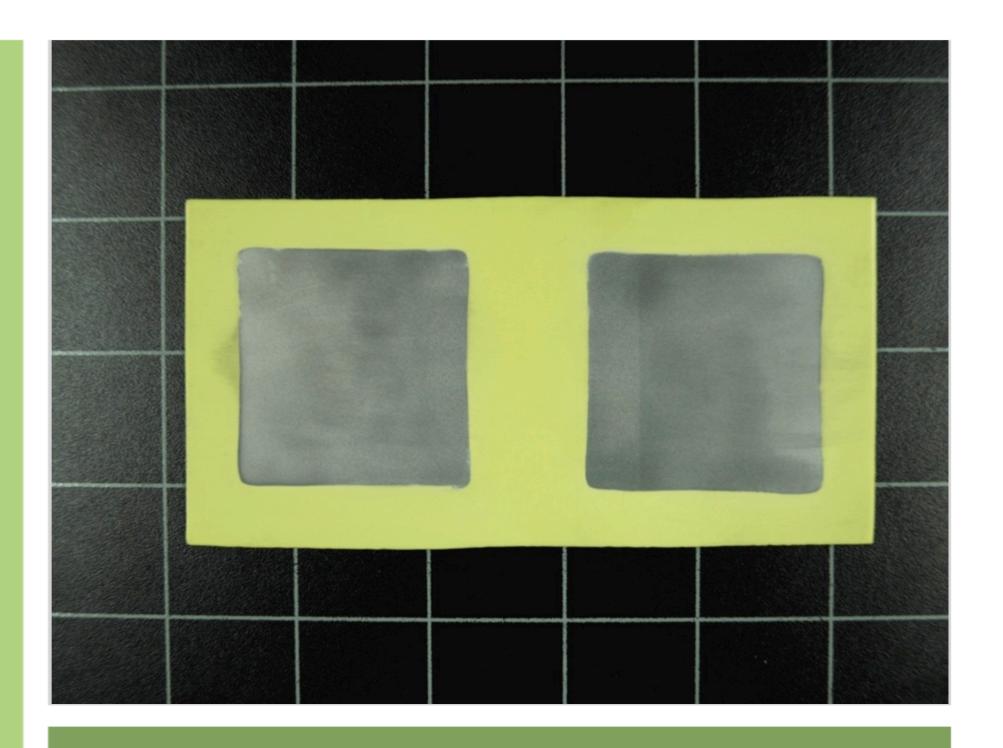
#### Surface Preparation Effects on Adhesion



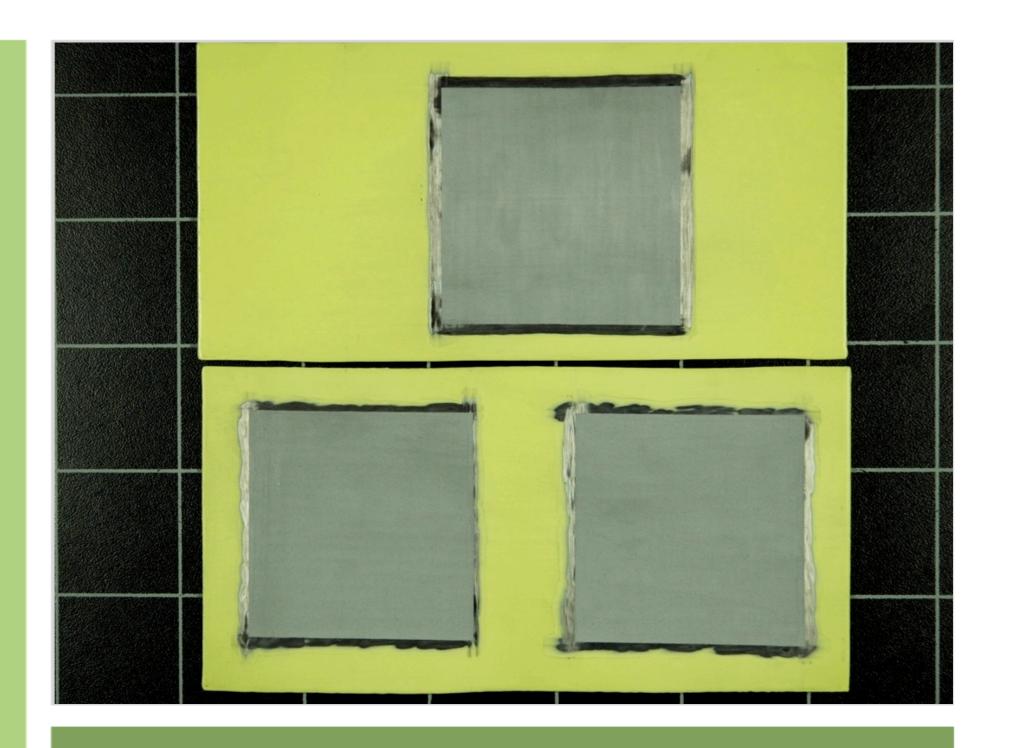
nano-Al-Trans®/Cr nano-CP-Al

## Neutral Salt Spray - 3000 Hrs ASTM B117

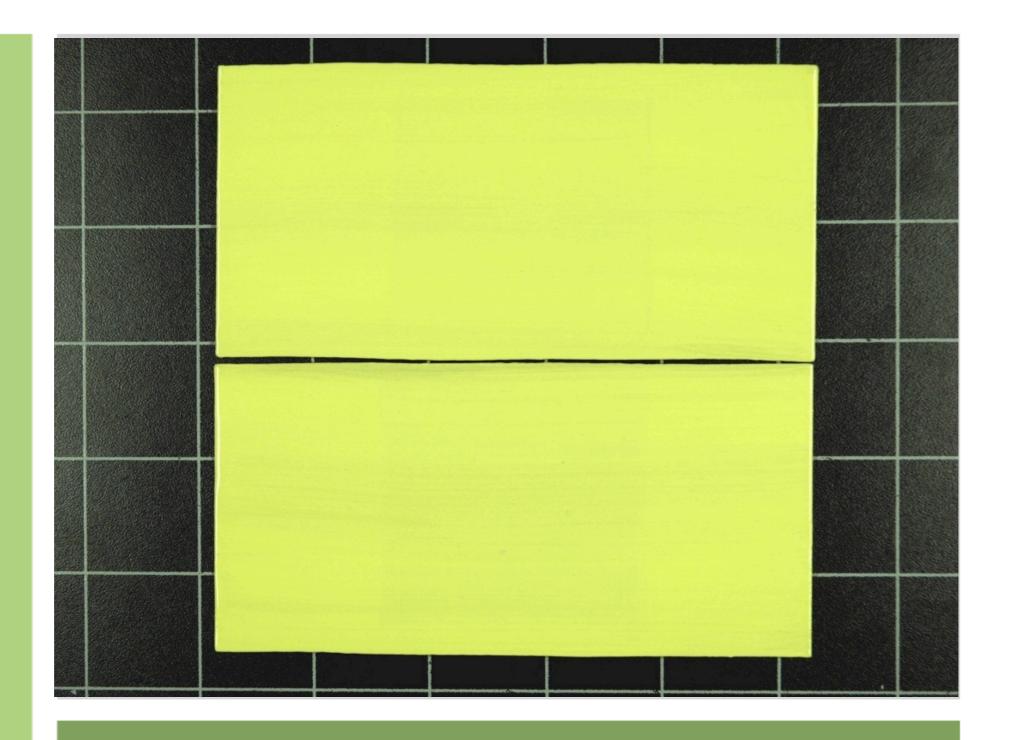




Patch Preparation Areas
IVD-Al with Epoxy Primer Topcoat



KM Al-Trans®/Cr Patch Repairs with Feather IVD-Al Border



KM Al-Trans®/Cr Repair of IVD-Al Patch Ares after Topcoat of Epoxy Primer

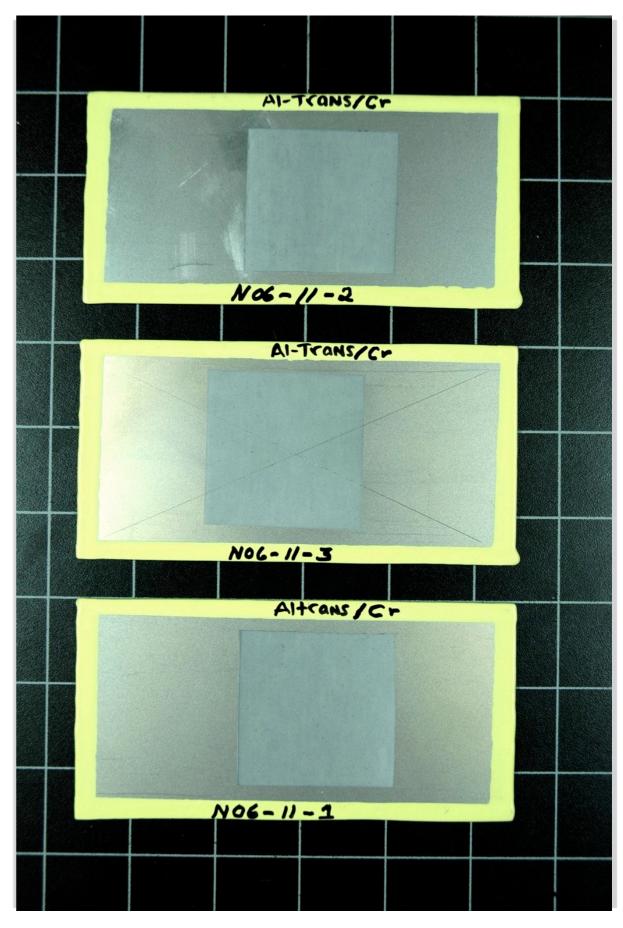
Neutral Salt Spray 1000 Hrs ASTM B117

Handheld KM Gun Spray I.0-1.5 mils Al-Trans®/Cr Coating on 4130 Steel



Handheld KM Gun Spray I.0-1.5 mils Al-Trans®/Cr Coating on 4130 Steel





#### KM Al-Trans® Future

- Qualification and Development
  - NAVAIR SBIR Phase IIB Award May 2006
    - ► IVD and Alumiplate<sup>SM</sup> repair process
    - Portable Kinetic Metallization unit
    - ► Coating qualification per JTP-2003
- ▶ Market Portable KM Units
  - ► Repair kit for commercial aircraft
    - ► Al-Clad, IVD and Alumiplate<sup>SM</sup> repairs
  - Repair unit for industrial applications