



CORROSION PROTECTION OF OFFSHORE WIND TURBINES

By

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THE OFFSHORE CHALLENGE



- **ABOVE WATER:**
UV-light, Water, Chlorides, Oxygen.
Corrosion rate of steel: 80 – 200 $\mu\text{m}/\text{year}$
- **SPLASH ZONE:**
UV-light, Water, Chlorides, Oxygen, Water erosion, Debris and Ice?
Corrosion rate of steel: 200 – 500 $\mu\text{m}/\text{year}$
- **BELOW THE WATERLINE:**
Water, Chlorides, Oxygen, Fouling.
Corrosion rate of steel: 100 – 200 $\mu\text{m}/\text{year}$

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COATINGS OFFER CORROSION PROTECTION

And can protect steel for many years



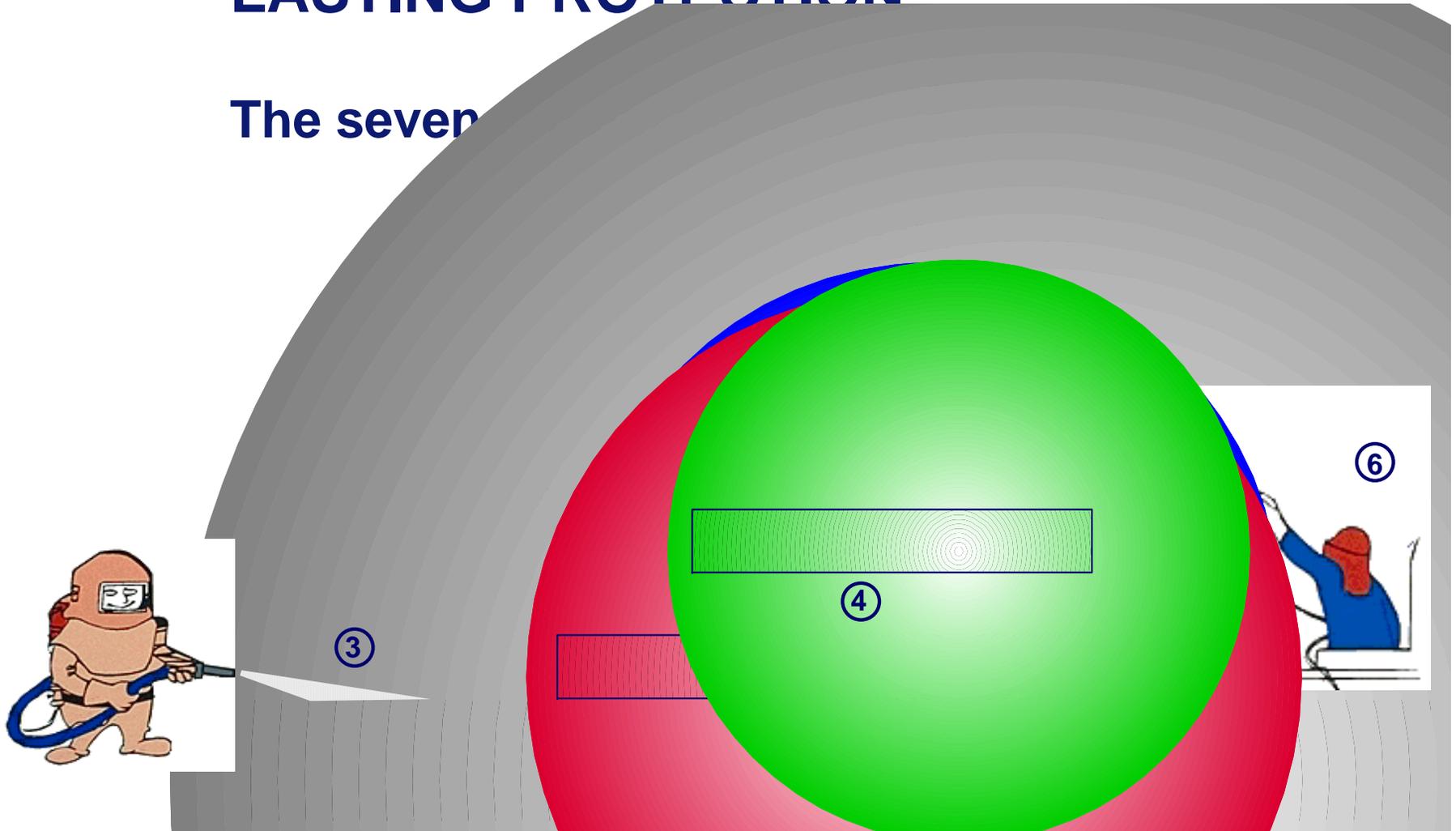
But it is not easy and simple – many factors must be considered and proper workmanship is crucial !

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REQUIREMENTS FOR LONG LASTING PROTECTION

The seven



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SURFACE PREPARATION

IMPORTANT FACTORS:

- CLEANLINESS
- ROUGHNESS

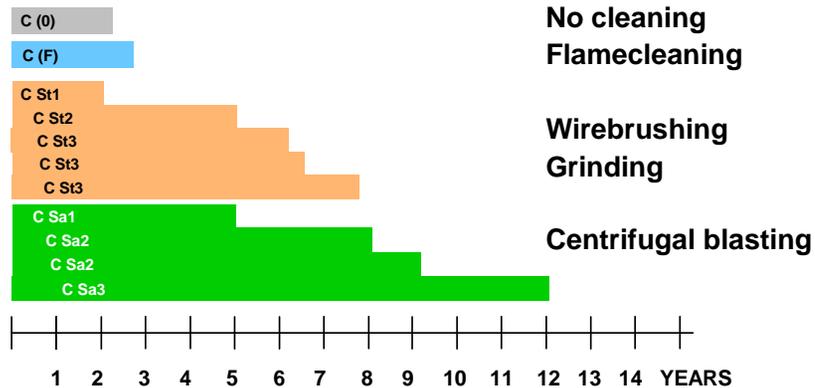


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SURFACE PREPARATION

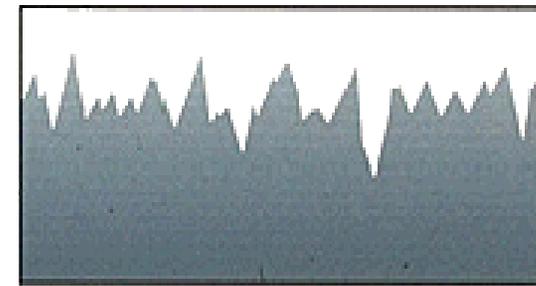
The better the surface preparation the longer the lifetime



No cleaning
Flamecleaning

Wirebrushing
Grinding

Centrifugal blasting



Cleanliness

Roughness

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PAINT APPLICATION

IMPORTANT FACTORS:

- FILM FORMATION
- FILM THICKNESS
- FILM INTEGRITY
- WORKMANSHIP



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CHOICE OF COATING SYSTEM

IMPORTANT FACTORS

- GENERIC TYPES OF COATINGS
- NUMBER OF COATS
- TOTAL FILMTHICKNESS
- MECHANICAL DESIGN
- QUALITY OF THE COATINGS



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QUALITY CONTROL

IS A MUST IN ALL STAGES OF THE JOB!

	1983 – 1990 (without ISO 9000)	1990 – 2000 (with ISO 9000)
Faulty coating material	2 %	2 %
Wrong specification	19 %	41 %
Changed environmental conditions	11 %	11 %
Faulty processing/wrong application	68 %	46 %

Damage analysis, 120 cases, Australia



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OFFSHORE STANDARDS

- NORSEK M501 (first edition in 1994)
- ISO 12944 (first edition in 1998)
- ISO 20340 (first edition in 2003)
- NACE TM 0204, 0304 and 0404 (first editions in 2004)



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THE OFFSHORE CHALLENGE



- **ABOVE WATER:**
Zinc-Rich primer, Epoxy intermediate and polyurethane topcoat. Minimum 3 coats and minimum 320 μm DFT total.
- **SPLASH ZONE:**
Epoxy or Polyester (Immersion grade). Minimum 2 coats and minimum 600 μm DFT total.
- **BELOW THE WATERLINE:**
Epoxy (Immersion grade) Minimum 2 coats and minimum 450 μm DFT total.

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NO SHORTCUTS!



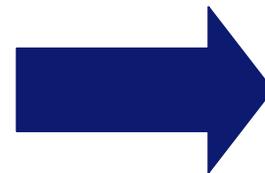
2 year old offshore wind turbine !

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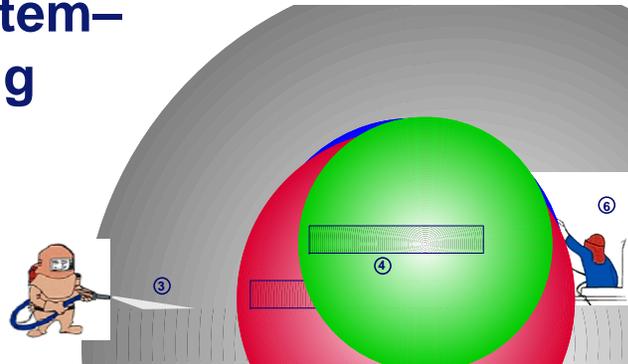


CONCLUSION

- ✓ Sound substrate
- ✓ Good surface preparation
- ✓ Proper application
- ✓ Right choice of coating system for the environment
- ✓ Quality coating system—confirmed by testing
- ✓ Proper inspection



High durability of the coating system



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