

Tank sealing tips using POR 15

*Tank Preparation and sealing:

The following is intended to be some assistance to those who are sealing **new** (unused) Iron Horse Corral tanks. This does not imply responsibility for possible failure of POR 15 in this application. Those with original or (used reproduction) tanks must make sure that the tanks are free from any and all sediment, fuel deposits or any previous sealer or chemical coatings before starting this procedure. We do not recommend sealing the oil compartment. But it should be cleaned thoroughly so as not to contaminate the chemicals involved in prep.

First plug off gas fittings and make sure you have one or two gas caps that are expendable. The POR 15 may ruin them if not cleaned off immediately. Marine Clean is the first chemical to be used. Mix 1 to 1 with water. Allow mixture to remain in the tanks for 15min. to ½ hr.....rotating them frequently. Make sure that the tanks are completely clean. Empty the tanks into a container through a paint strainer, if you need to re-use the cleaner. Blow out the tanks with dry, clean compressed air. We use an air nozzle with an 18" piece of copper tubing attached. If the tanks are fairly dry it is now time to prep them with Metal Ready. There are 2 ways to accomplish this. 1st ...you can pour the entire contents of the prep solution into the first tank half, rotating it and making sure it contacts every area of the tank. Depending on the level of rust in the tank, the solution should remain for at least ½ hr. **never letting it dry inside**. Drain the solution out into a clean container using a paint strainer and funnel. Metal Ready can be re-used this way. Repeat the procedure in the second tank half. Wash out the tank with about 1 to 2 quarts of water, and then use the air nozzle to blow the remaining water out. (We then take a heat gun and introduce hot air into the tank to make sure it is completely free of moisture and to prevent any new surface rust from forming) Then blow any remaining water out with the blow gun again. You can repeat this procedure as needed. Not to worry though, POR 15 is formulated to adhere to light rust, thus the name..... Paint Over Rust.

The 2nd way is to just split up the prep solution and empty 50% into ea. tank half. The advantage to method #1 is that there is much more solution to coat and prep the tank, but it does take a little longer.

Sealing procedure:

After making sure there is no moisture trapped inside the tanks and that they are plugged off it is time to introduce the sealant.

Make sure the sealant is thoroughly stirred before pouring into the tanks. Do not shake the can. It will cause bubbles which will reduce and compromise the usefulness of the sealant. As you stir it you will notice small semi-solid bits in the can. That is normal. They will break up and mix in as you stir. Now you can pour 50% of the can into ea. tank half. As you pour the last of the sealant into the second tank you may see some unmixed bits, if so, then stop and stir the contents again. Make sure that you rotate the tanks until all internal surfaces are coated. After they are completely coated it is time to drain the sealant out through the gas neck into a can or bucket. We use 5 gal. plastic buckets because the tanks can rest on the top while draining and the sealant can be removed from the bucket after drying. While draining the tanks it is important not to let the sealant pool up inside the tanks so it is important to move them every few minutes to release trapped sealant. POR will not adhere properly if allowed to pool up. You may have to “baby sit” the tanks for a few hrs. (3 to 4) to make sure all the excess sealant drains out. Once the POR “skins over” it is beginning to set up.

Hope these tips help you to keep your tanks healthy for many years to come.

*If you are using a POR 15 kit, the instructions included are very complete and should be adhered to. Our method is just a slight enhancement of their instructions and has proved very successful in over 300 sets of tanks.