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Project Profile:

Project Name	MUNI Bus Barn	Specification	Gaco Western GW-15-UBU
Location	San Francisco, California	Area Manager	Warner Hobart
Type of Project	Install Urethane Parking Deck System	Problem to be Solved	Daily Traffic From Articulated Buses and Industrial Forklifts

Bus Maintenance Facility Demands Tough Parking Deck System; Only Gaco Can Meet the Challenge

In 1998, the city of San Francisco invited four coating manufacturers, including Gaco Western, to participate in a test of parking deck systems at MUNI Potrero Bus Maintenance Facility. The city was determined to find a traffic deck system that would stand up to extreme wear and tear from the city's fleet of articulated buses.

“Gaco was the only system that passed the torture test designed by the City of San Francisco.”

Each manufacturer would lay down a sample, installed according to submittal spec. Then, two wear tests would be conducted. First, an industrial forklift would be parked with its front wheels over the sample; the wheels would be turned to a hard right, followed by a hard left. Second, the same "chalk-to-chalk" test would be performed with a 20-ton articulated bus. The only requirement for passing the test was that the coating had to remain adhered to the substrate.



Gaco Western traffic deck specification, GW-15-UBU, was applied, including primer, urethane coating, walnut shell texture, and sealer.

Initially 3 rotations were performed. Two of the coating manufacturers were already out of the game—the coatings had torn away under the pressure and heat from the tire rotations. After 6 rotations, the third manufacturer was also eliminated, leaving only Gaco Western. Thirteen more rotations were performed—and only Gaco's system withstood the punishing test.

But, that's not quite the end...

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GacoFlex Urethane and Walnut Shell Set the Standard for Adhesion, Wear, and Resistance to Heat Stress

After the reps left, the city decided to continue and set a benchmark. The testing continued through 25, 50 and finally 100 cycles. Only Gaco's GW-15-UBU system remained intact!

Naturally, Gaco Western was awarded the job, which was completed in the summer of 1999. The reasons for the superior performance of Gaco's GW-15-UBU:

- High resistance to heat stress load
- Excellent adhesion due to sealer primer system
- Walnut shell aggregate instead of sand (sand is likely to kick out, then loose grit damages the coating; walnut shell wore evenly with the coating, and did not scuff out or damage the coating).