

# Product Case History



## Superior Propane - A Direct to Metal Solution

### PRODUCT(S) USED:

Exterior Coating 1: Carbothane 8812

Exterior Coating 2: Carbothane 8815

### AREA COATED:

Superior Propane is Canada's largest and only national marketer of propane, and propane related services. One of their key services is the supply and distribution of propane to the residential, commercial and agricultural marketplaces. In supplying propane to their customers they also provide them with the storage tanks required. These tanks range in size from the 25 lb bottle tanks to the large 30,000 litre tanks.

The problem Superior Propane was faced with was the escalating costs of painting maintenance required on literally thousands of storage tanks.

The old painting system they used consisted of: 1 coat of epoxy primer and 1 topcoat of enamel. This system was economical for the original coating of the tanks, but was found to be costly and labour intensive; considering the tanks had to be repainted every 3-5 years.

### LOCATION:

NOVA SCOTIA, ONTARIO,  
MANITOBA & SASKATCHEWAN

### DATE OF APPLICATION:

WINTER 2002-2003

### MARKET:

OIL & GAS

### SUBSTRATE:

STEEL

### SURFACE PREP:

CLEAN & DRY

### EXPOSURE:

PROPANE

### SURFACE PREP:

SSPC SP6 BLAST WITH  
1.5-2 MIL PROFILE



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## COATING SELECTION EXPLANATION:

This is where Carboline's new O.E.M product, Carbothane 8812/8815 direct to metal acrylic polyurethane came into play. Our Atlantic Coating Specialist started testing these products with Superior's painting applicator in Nova Scotia. The favourable test results were shared with the rest of Carboline's Coating Specialists.

In the winter of 2002/03 these products were tested with Eagle Sandblasting & Coating (Superior Propane's Manitoba applicators). Both Superior and Eagle were impressed with the following qualities of the product:

- One step process (direct to metal) saves labour costs because no primer is required.
- Excellent chemical and abrasion resistance
- Fast dry, 8815 is dry to handle in 90-120 mins, 8812 is dry in 6-8 hrs
- High build and excellent gloss
- Approximately 8-10 year coating life with SSPC-SP6 BLAST with 1 1/2 -2 mil profile and 3-5 mils dry film thickness.

As the Prairie thunderstorms are very unpredictable, Eagle Sandblasting has been especially thankful for the fast dry times of Carbothane 8815. On one particular occasion, they had just finished painting 10 - 1000 litre tanks when a rainstorm blew in. On their return to the jobsite the next morning, they found little or no damage to the tanks due to the fast cure time of 8815.

To date, Superior Propane is coating their 200, 500, 1000 and 30,000 litre tanks with Carbothane 8812 and 8815 direct to metal polyurethane in Nova Scotia, Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan. They are also coating / recoating the 25 lb bottle tanks at their tank farms in Ontario.