

## Ask the **Expert**

Why should I source PVDF coatings-and what exactly is PVDF?

Polyvinylidene fluoride, or PVDF, has been around for 50plus years. The extremely durable thermoplastic polymer, similar to Teflon, is offered in a variety of grades, and the NeverFade line of coatings contains several types manufactured by Arkema under the renowned brand name Kynar. Kynar Aquatec, Arkema's water-based PVDF emulsion, is an im-

portant component



strate and even prior to this, extensive intercoat adhesion and compatibility testing have been conducted on the er. Other durability tests follow-several ASTM tests for abrasion, hardness, and impact resistance, another for mold and yet another that involves 10,000 hours of UV light exposure and humidity to spot color change, gloss retention, and chalking. NeverFade can easily For metal applica-

states with even the spray testing are conducted to idenmental regulations. tify blistering and When it comes to corrosion formaformulating PVDF tion. We even work with a third-party coatings, the key to lab that provides consistent high performance is years of actionable data testing. Before APV culled from our coats surfaces in the extensive outdoor field with a primer exposure testing, during which we ex-NeverFade topcoat, pose coated panels in all climates. One adhesion. First, to Florida home was blasted with sand the underlying suband debris during the hurricanes in 2017 and 2018, seven and eight years after NeverFade was installed. Even after topcoat to the primnine years of south Florida weather, its facade looks as good as new. Whether it's being put through its paces in a conand mildew growth, trolled lab setting or exposed to a

tions, hours of salt

Lon Bauer, Product

Engineered Coatings

Development Manager, APV

NeverFade<sup>®</sup> coatings from **APV Engineered** Coatings come in two main topcoat formulations that incorporate Kynar Aquatec®-the high-performance PVDF polymer engineered by Arkema. Compared to urethanes and acrylics, Kynar® PVDF is in a class by itself. Outstanding characteristics

include extreme resistance-to ultraviolet light,

radiation, abrasion, high thermal exposure, and a wide range of aggressive chemicals-as well

as easy application with industry-standard spray equipment, and adhesion to many different surfaces, among other benefits. But what exactly is PVDF, and what role does APV's rigorous research and development process play in making it a successful component of NeverFade? The company's product development manager, Lon Bauer, explains.

be field-applied in

harshest environ-

and compatible

we always test

real-world scenario, one thing is clear: APV's NeverFade really works, and its incorporation of Kynar PVDF is a big reason why.

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