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# **Easy Strategies for Preserving Military Weaponry and Ammunition**

Militaries around the world have the ongoing challenge of maintaining high value weaponry without knowing when they will need it. While the general desire of most militaries is to keep the peace, they must be ready for defense at any time if serious threats to public safety do occur. Unfortunately for them, traditional methods of weaponry preservation, such as coating firearms in oils or greases, effectively protect the weapons



from corrosion but are extremely time consuming and difficult to remove. Thanks to the advantages of multi-metal Cortec<sup>®</sup> VpCI<sup>®</sup> Technology, there are a number of dry corrosion protection alternatives that will leave the weapons clean and ready to go on short notice.

#### VCI Technology Advantage for Immediate Readiness



Early VCI technology saw extensive use in military equipment preservation. Since then, Cortec<sup>®</sup> Corporation has arrived on the scene, leading the market for the past 40-plus years in developing and delivering safer VCI technologies under the VpCI<sup>®</sup> brand name. Cortec's VpCI<sup>®</sup> Technology is versatile enough to be incorporated into many different materials including packaging, emitter cups, desiccant pouches, and foam pads. These

items are coated, extruded, or infused with Vapor phase Corrosion Inhibitors that protect multiple metal types through vaporization, diffusion, and attraction to nearby metal surfaces within an enclosed space. This protective barrier simply evaporates when the enclosure is opened, eliminating the need for cleaning and removal. Because of this, the item can be used immediately.

#### The Protective Power of VCI Paper

One very simple, yet effective, item to have in stock is VpCI<sup>®</sup> paper—either CorShield<sup>®</sup> VpCI<sup>®</sup>-146 Paper for basic applications or EcoShield<sup>®</sup> VpCI<sup>®</sup>-144 Paper where a recyclable moisture barrier is needed. Both of these papers are USDA Certified Biobased Products that meet minimum biobased requirements under the mandatory federal purchasing initiative of the USDA BioPreferred<sup>®</sup> Program,\* making them good



choices for federal agencies or their contractors involved in weapons preservation for the U.S. military. VpCI<sup>®</sup> Paper is excellent just for storing ammunition, especially on bases located in hot, humid, marine environments. One military in the Asian Pacific was estimated to have saved approximately 900,000 USD per year by adopting VpCI<sup>®</sup> Paper for a two-year weapons storage program in a tropical area. Wrapping the

105 mm ammunition in CorShield<sup>®</sup> VpCI<sup>®</sup>-146 Paper along with an absorbent material solved the corrosion problem on the charge bags and cartridge cases. A similar packaging method may be used to wrap and protect firearms themselves.

## VCI Films and Emitters



VpCI<sup>®</sup>-126 Bags are another excellent option for packing away guns and related components, preserved and at the ready. These bags incorporate the same Vapor phase Corrosion Inhibitor Technology into plastic packaging material for applications where additional durability is needed for longer storage or harsher environments. For even further protection, a BioPad<sup>®</sup> (another USDA Certified Biobased Product), a

VpCI<sup>®</sup>-105 Emitter cup, or a piece of VpCI<sup>®</sup>-130 Series foam can be inserted into the package if an extra source of VpCI<sup>®</sup> is desired for a large enclosure or long preservation period.

Preparing an Effective Preservation Plan

There are many different options for setting up a weapons preservation plan depending on the degree of protection, the length of protection required, and the personal preferences of those applying the materials. The ideas mentioned above are excellent ways to get started on a small or large military project. For additional help creating a preservation plan tailored to the needs of a specific application (and to learn about other complementary products for military



applications), contact Cortec<sup>®</sup> for further consultation: https://www.cortecvci.com/contact-us/. To learn more about CorShield<sup>®</sup> VpCI<sup>®</sup>-146 Paper, please visit: https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/Corshield VpCI-146.pdf

To learn more about EcoShield<sup>®</sup> VpCI<sup>®</sup>-144 Paper, please visit: https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/EcoShield-VpCI-144.pdf

To learn more about VpCI<sup>®</sup>-126 Film, please visit:

https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/VpCI-126 Blue.pdf

To learn more about BioPad<sup>®</sup>, please visit:

https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/Biopad.pdf

To learn more about VpCI<sup>®</sup>-105 Emitter, please visit: https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/105.pdf

To learn more about the VpCI<sup>®</sup>-130 Series, please visit: https://www.cortecvci.com/Publications/PDS/VpCI-130 series.pdf

\*For more information about the BioPreferred<sup>®</sup> Program, please visit: <u>https://www.biopreferred.gov.</u>

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