

## ***Mobile Pipe Now Providing Coating Options for Structural Steel and Piling Projects***

Steel piling is frequently used for a variety of construction applications and the geometry can vary from sheet piles to cylindrical piles and H-piles. A “pile” is any vertical structural element of a foundation that is driven or drilled deep into the ground at the building site. Steel piles are typically used for foundations, earth retention, water and flood control, and as a mounting structures for solar farms.

For example, California agricultural land in many areas is being converted to accommodate utility-scale PV (photo-voltaic) solar plants. Agricultural land contains soils that have been disturbed – containing more oxygen. The increase in oxygen can directly affect the rate of corrosion on steel and zinc coated piling. In marine applications, installed piling in splash-zones and salt water environments have significantly higher rates of corrosion.



***H-piles for a solar facility near Calipatria, CA - the coating was applied as 20 mils nominal thickness with pile length varying from between 13-25 feet depending on the structural load requirement***

Many corrosion control methods exist including thicker pile selection, design geometry, sacrificial coatings and bonded coatings. The goal is to minimize general corrosion (versus pitting) which can reduce the structural integrity of the piling member itself. A bonded coating economically provides long lasting protection to achieve the desired design life and mitigate these types of corrosion concerns. In addition to considering the proper coating material, it is equally important to carefully specify the qualifications of the applicator as surface preparation, handling, coating process checks and final QA are the ultimate determinants of long lasting corrosion protection.

With over 50 years of experience in the application of complex coatings systems on fabricated pipe and fittings, Mobile Pipe is now capitalizing on that expertise to provide structural steel coatings for marine piling and the solar market. New investment into Wheelabrator® automated equipment now provides Mobile Pipe with the ability to blast large geometry piles and beams in a continuous manner. The dedicated external blast machine can blast a Z-pile measuring 7 feet wide and 3 feet in height. With over 40 acres of storage capabilities, large projects are not an issue for staging and storing the piling project before delivery to the jobsite.

Good workmanship and quality control/assurance procedures are essential in providing a superior product that ensures long-term field performance. Mobile Pipe has extensive experience with complex coating systems and has a nationally recognized SSPC-QP3 quality certification; allowing compliance with DoD, NAVFAC, CALTRANS requirements and many others. Also, the proximity of Mobile Pipe to west coast jobsites limits the potential for shipping damage from long hauls.



***A 36,000 sq/ft enclosed shop allows Mobile Pipe to process any large or small job with environmentally stable conditions. The Fastclad® ER from Sherwin Williams, pictured above, is a high build epoxy with quick cure times and high edge retentive properties that protect the flange of the beam when driven.***



***Powercrete® R-60 contains a concrete aggregate and has been used for over 20 years in directional drilling applications. The high build properties and abrasion resistance lends to excellent performance for piling applications.***

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