

PCI Plant Quality Talk Quality Enhancement Committee



SERIES 1, ISSUE 8 – HANDLING EPOXY-COATED REINFORCING BAR

One method of preventing steel reinforcement corrosion in precast/prestressed concrete members is the use of fusion-bonded epoxy-coated reinforcing bar. There are some special considerations to take into account when working with epoxy-coated reinforcing bar.

Common Issues

- Epoxy coating gets scratched or chipped off of the reinforcing bar, creating a place for corrosion to begin.
- Epoxy-coated reinforcing bar is cut and the ends are not recoated, allowing corrosion to begin.
- Steel chains are used to lift epoxy-coated reinforcing bar, damaging the coating.

Best Practices

- When handling epoxy-coated reinforcing bar, take special care not to damage the coating.
- Use nylon strapping to ensure the coating is not damaged by cables or chains.
- Use multiple lift points so that bars are not allowed to sag and rub during handling.
- Epoxy-coated reinforcing bar needs to be stored separately from non-epoxy-coated reinforcing bar.
- Take measures to protect bars, such as storage on wood, plastic, or rubber-coated racks.
- Bars with damaged coatings need to be repaired using an approved repair material before being used.
- If stored outside, epoxy-coated reinforcing bar needs to be protected from direct sunlight. Ultraviolet light degrades the epoxy coating over time.
- When assembling reinforcing bar cages using epoxy-coated reinforcing bar, take care not to damage the epoxy coating.
- When tying cages, use PVC-coated tie wire (4.8.5 of referenced article).

Reference

CRSI product guide, *Specialty & Corrosion-Resistant Steel Reinforcement*.

Note: Please complete this form and return to the Quality Control Manager. All crew members should be observant and report to their foreman anything out of the ordinary on a project. *See something, say something.*

NOTES

ATTENDEE SIGNATURES

DATE

PRESENTER