



As Fastenal continues to grow, we are successfully landing larger national accounts. These accounts tend to request higher grades, exotic materials, and special coatings for their critical application parts. Fastenal's Engineering & Design Support group is becoming a necessity to service these customers. This group provides their engineering expertise to solve application problems, and provide them with better fastening solutions.


The Fastener Product Development Group has been working closely with the Engineering & Design Support group to develop a line of fasteners that will provide an excellent solution to one of the most common problems/requirements we get: corrosion resistance. This line of fasteners will have a 1000 hour coating applied to it which will be branded as Fastenal's EcoGuard™ coating. EcoGuard™ will be silver gray in color, and will meet the EU directives for End of Life Vehicles (ELV) and Electrical Equipment (RoHS). The line will initially include Grade 8 hex cap screws, nuts, washers, and socket head cap screws, and will soon be expanding into lag screws, carriage bolts, self drilling screws, and much more.

**EcoGuard® has many advantages that we will be able to tout to our customers.**

Features	Benefits
Consistent Torque-Tension Relationship	With the use of EcoGuard™'s topcoat system, the average torque coefficient or K-factor is 0.15.
Hydrogen Embrittlement Free Application Process	Unlike electroplating, the EcoGuard™ coating application process does not induce hydrogen embrittlement. EcoGuard™ uses cleaning processes that have no detrimental effects on the base material.
No Toxic Metals	Free of chromium, nickel, cadmium, lead, barium and mercury. Meets the requirements of EU Directives on Electrical Equipment (RoHS) and End of Life Vehicle (ELV). REACH Compliant, meets EPA and OSHA regulations.
Price	EcoGuard™ products are approximately 20-30% lower than traditional 18-8 stainless steel products.
Strength	EcoGuard™ will be on our grade 8 product, which will provide higher strength than 316 stainless steel products.
Superior Corrosion Resistance	Minimum 1000 hours salt-spray to red rust for most parts.
Thin Dry Film	Typical average coating thickness between 8-10 microns. No adverse effects on normal fastener installation and removal practices.

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**Coating Applicator:**



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For more information on Fastenal's new EcoGuard™ coating line, please feel free to contact Sam Aldinger at [saldinge@fastenal.com](mailto:saldinge@fastenal.com) or the Engineering & Design Support group at [engineer@fastenal.com](mailto:engineer@fastenal.com)