

Are foul-release paints for you?

In the May issue of *National Fisherman* we have an article on new foul-release antifoulant paints. These are paints that reduce fuel costs by as much as 10 percent and shouldn't require a complete recoating for five to 10 years, depending on the application. But they are expensive — \$500 to \$600 a gallon. Because of the time between repainting the bottom, the paints — expensive as they are — could reduce your operating expenses.

To find out if foul-release paints make economic sense for you, Ev Collier, the article's author, provides a cost analysis chart. First he gives you two examples to show how it's done, and then you can fill in the blanks to match your own needs. The totals will be computed automatically. The examples assume 10 percent fuel savings and a minimum of five years between bottom paintings

NOTE 1: Assumes that the cost of bottom painting is allocated over 5 years, or 20 percent (0.2) per year.

NOTE 2: Assumes a 10-percent savings in fuel cost, so annual cost of fuel equals 90%, or 0.9 times the fuel cost with conventional bottom paint.

Assumptions for a 57' Steel Trawler

Boat length over-all	57	feet
Cost of fuel	\$2.95	dollars (\$)/gallon
Gallons of fuel per trip	800	assumes a three-day trip
Number of trips per Year	50	assumes one trip per week
Cost of SPC bottom paint	\$130.00	per gallon
Cost of foul-release bottom paint	\$600.00	per gallon
Gallons of SPC bottom paint	4	two coats
Gallons of foul-release bottom paint	9	two coats
Boatyard cost – haul out	\$17.50	dollars (\$)/foot, includes blocking and launch
Boatyard cost – bottom painting	\$138.00	dollars (\$)/foot, includes two coats and environmental disposal fees
Coatings per Year - SPC	1	coat
Coatings per Year – foul release	.02	per manufacturer's 5-year minimum between recoating (<i>See NOTE 1</i>)

Using conventional bottom coating – Self-Polishing Copolymer (SPC)

Cost of fuel per year	\$118,000.00	(fuel costs x gallons)
Cost of painting per year	\$9,383.50	(paint + haul out + painting per foot) x 1
Total cost per year	\$127,383.50	

Using Foul-release bottom coating

Cost of fuel per year	\$106,200.00	(fuel costs x gallons) x 0.9, (<i>See NOTE 2</i>)
Cost of painting per year	\$2,852.70	(paint + haul out + painting per foot) x 0.2, (<i>See NOTE 1</i>)
Total cost per year	\$109,052.70	

ANNUAL SAVINGS \$18,330.80

Assumptions for a 45' fiberglass Lobster Boat

Boat length over-all	45	Feet
Cost of fuel	\$2.95	dollars (\$)/gallon
Number of days fishing	200	days
Gallons per trip	50	gallons
Gallons of fuel per year	10,000	gallons
Cost of SPC bottom paint	\$130.00	dollars (\$)/gallon
Cost of foul-release bottom paint	\$600.00	dollars (\$)/gallon
Gallons of SPC bottom paint	4	two coats
Gallons of foul-release bottom paint	8	two coats
Boatyard cost – haul out	\$17.50	dollars (\$)/foot
Boatyard cost – bottom painting	\$0.00	dollars (\$)/foot, assumes done by owner
Coatings per year – SPC	1	coat
Coatings per year – foul-release	0.2	per manufacture's 5 year minimum between recoating (See NOTE 1)

Using conventional bottom coating – Self-Polishing Copolymer (SPC)

Cost of fuel per year	\$29,500.00	(fuel costs x gallons)
Cost of painting per year	\$1,307.50	(paint + haul out + painting per foot) x 1
Total cost per year	30,807.50	

Using Foul-release bottom coating

Cost of fuel per year	\$26,550.00	(fuel costs x gallons) x 0.9, (See NOTE 2)
Cost of painting per year	\$1,117.50	(paint + haul out + painting per foot) x 0.2, (See NOTE 1)
Total cost per year	\$27,667.50	

ANNUAL SAVINGS \$3,140.00

Boat length over-all	feet
Cost of fuel	dollars (\$)/gallon
Gallons of fuel per trip	assumes a three-day trip
Number of trips per Year	assumes one trip per week
Cost of SPC bottom paint	per gallon
Cost of foul-release bottom paint	per gallon
Gallons of SPC bottom paint	two coats
Gallons of foul-release bottom paint	two coats
Boatyard cost – haul out	dollars (\$)/foot, includes blocking and launch
Boatyard cost – bottom painting	dollars (\$)/foot, includes two coats and environmental disposal fees
Coatings per Year - SPC	1 coat
Coatings per Year – foul release	.02 per manufacturer’s 5-year minimum between recoating (<i>See NOTE 1</i>)

Using conventional bottom coating – Self-Polishing Copolymer (SPC)

Cost of fuel per year	
Cost of painting per year	
Total cost per year	

Using Foul-release bottom coating

Cost of fuel per year	<i>See NOTE 2</i>
Cost of painting per year	<i>See NOTE 1</i>
Total cost per year	

YOUR ANNUAL SAVINGS