

Silvagrip for safety – reducing workplace accidents

With safety being a number one priority for any industry, when a new product comes along that is easy to apply, lasts longer and is more effective than the traditional product, it's time to consider switching. And so it is the case with Silvagrip®.

Silvagrip® is a new revolutionary patent-pending, peel and stick non-skid product used to increase safety and lower the incidence of slip hazards in the work-place. It is a product of Silva Non Skid Solutions LLC. Silvagrip is now available on the West Coast through its distributor, SILVAGRIPWEST.

Silvagrip was first designed for long-board racers. The hard turns and high speed of the sport requires boards with extreme grip and unflinching adhesive. The sheer force applied in long-board racing far exceeds the normal wear and tear as seen on a standing surface. As the product developed, it became obvious that Silvagrip applications could provide a safety benefit to many different industries. For example, workboats, in rough seas, may pitch 60 degrees thus applying similar forces to the non-skid surfaces on the deck.

Silvagrip is a blend of molten aluminum, ceramic and oxygen. This creates an extremely tough material yet it is still flexible so it can be wrapped around edges without cracking. The aluminum/ ceramic blend is a patented product used in Silvagrip.

Conventional non-skid tapes use resins to hold the abrasive. This profile wears out via grit pull out, by being worked back and forth in traffic until the abrasive falls out. The abrasive particles don't wear out, they just fall out. Silvagrip abrasives are encapsulated by molten metal and solidified in position permanently, making Silvagrip superior in durability via design. When the molten metal alloy hardens, it leaves a very sharp surface with each particle displaying a random structure. This random structure produces an excellent grip profile preventing slips with impressive wear resistance.

Silvagrip has a Rockwell hardness of Rc60+ and a high bond strength of 2,500 psi. This alloy is resistant to oils and fuels, unaffected by sun, salt, and weather.

Silvagrip is designed for harsh environmental conditions like salt water and is

resistant to many chemicals found in the work environment. The anti-skid surface is ideal for heavy day-to-day foot traffic found on most work boats and industrial walkways. The inventor of the patented aluminum/ceramic materials used in Silvagrip has been testing the product with the U.S. Navy since 2003.

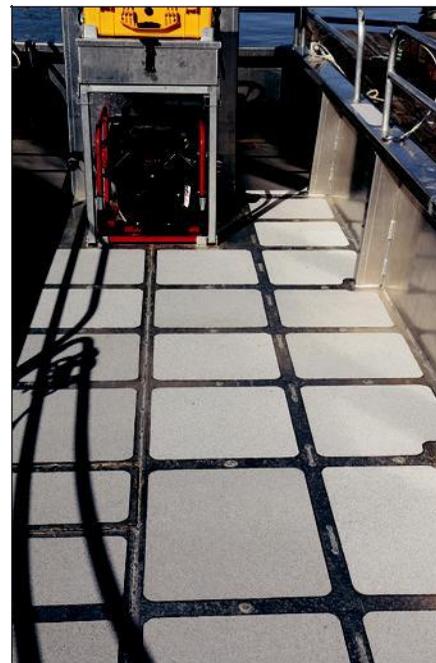
In 2014, the U.S. Navy approved Silvagrip for application to ship decks and received the designation Military Specification: MILPRF 24667-X1.

The key advantage of peel and stick non-skid over epoxy non-skid is that it has none of the associated costs and constraints associated with applying traditional epoxy non-skid. Silvagrip can be applied to any dry clean surface and is ready for traffic immediately after installation. Benefits include a longer life expectancy than epoxy finishes, with conservative estimates at 10 years or longer. It is waterproof, UV proof, corrosion proof, resistant to wear, easy to clean, and simple to install.

The Steveston Harbour Authority in Richmond, B.C. chose Silvagrip for their new utility workboat. Working under diverse weather conditions and often in emergency situations, there was a need to ensure the boat deck did not present a slip hazard. Jim Jones, Operations Manager, chose to install Silvagrip peel and stick to the entire exposed vessel floor and on the step rail. "We were looking for a durable surface that would prevent slipping yet wouldn't need to be replaced so often. We felt Silvagrip met our needs for a reliable non-slip surface that can handle salt water and other diverse weather conditions. Installation was very simple and took no time for curing or drying. It looks good and stands up well with our water tests," he said.

Recent installations have also included the dock at Arrow Marine Services, the pool ladders at Winskill Aquatic & Fitness Centre in Delta, and the South Surrey Pool. Silvagrip is a multi-industry safety product with many different applications in commercial, institutional, and hospitality environments and also in many public areas.

Initially, cost is comparable to traditional non-skid applications but where the cost savings is realized is in the labour-saving, time-saving, and longevity of the product.



Silvagrip was applied to the new work boat for the Steveston Harbour Authority and has received great praise from Operations Manager Jim Jones.

Silvagrip will be featured in the new product category at the Pacific Marine Expo in Seattle in November. They will be exhibiting their product at Booth #407.

Silvagrip is distributed by SILVAGRIPWEST. Owner Lloyd Johannesen has over 25 years of global experience working with special metal alloys and thermal spray products. He can be reached at 604-376-4291 or lloyd@silvagripwest.com. For more information visit www.SilvagripWest.com.

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