


Quick Tech

No More Polishing!

WORDS & PHOTOGRAPHY BOB CARPENTER

Nothing beats the look of polished billet parts. Likewise, nothing is as much of a pain as maintaining polished billet parts. It's fun for a couple of times, and then the Zen-like wax-on/wax-off appeal fades, along with your part's finish. What if you didn't have to polish your shiny parts anymore? Wouldn't that be a relief? Well, we've discovered a product that is simply astounding.

Zoopseal comes to us from the street rod industry, where it has been creating a stir for about a year. We all know how shiny those street rods are, and there could be no better test bed for the product. Zoops Products makes some of the nicest billet pieces in the industry, and the company has extensive experience in keeping these parts looking good. We have examined parts that were coated nine months earlier and exposed to the elements daily; they look as if they were polished that day. This easy-to-apply product was designed to prevent dulling and oxidation of aluminum, retaining the polished brightness and luster. Actually, Zoopseal also works on brass, stainless steel, fiberglass and anodized parts. It's a natural product for your boat. You can seal your engine pieces, cleats, bezels, bimini top poles and hardware, and more. Zoopseal is intended for above-the-water parts, but we know of at least one stainless steel prop that was treated and still looks brand-new six months later.

We watched as Zoops Products' Tisa Weisz coated a pair of marine exhaust tips. These tips were corroded and nasty looking thanks to the elements that boating exposes our parts to on a daily basis. First, we polished them back to their original luster. Zoopseal is designed to prevent any further dulling but won't make your ragged parts look better. It will keep them looking exactly as they do when you seal them, so polish the parts as best you can and then clean them mercilessly with the special cleanser supplied with the Zoopseal kit. Each kit can cover about 60 square feet (definitely your entire engine, including pulleys, brackets, valve covers and so on). Application is extremely easy—check out the photos.  **Product Profile** ZOOPS Products, Dept. FPB 931 E. Lincoln St. Banning, CA 92220 909/922-2396 www.zoops.com



1 The Zoopseal kit comes with everything you need, including a special cleanser to get your parts extra clean. **2** You want every impurity out of the pores of the metal because Zoopseal is going to fill those pores and maintain the exact appearance that you start with. **3** The sealer needs to be applied in a thin coat. The Zoopseal kit includes the lint-free towels to use for application. **4** Simply wipe the sealer onto the part in an even, thin coat. Let the part cure at room temperature for about an hour. You may see a rainbow appearance in the part at this point. That will be polished out with the final seal. **5** The final seal is like a wax. Apply it to the part and let it dry to a haze before polishing it off with a soft cloth. **6** Let the part cure in a warm, dry place for 24 hours. Zoopseal offers UV protection and will not chip or peel. Most engine cleaners will not affect Zoopseal. Avoid alkaline-based cleaners such as turpentine or acetone. There are endless places Zoopseal could be used on your boat to eliminate the need for constant polishing and maintenance. Testing has shown that the parts can look brand new for up to three years.