

A photograph of a large industrial facility, likely a refinery or chemical plant. The structure is composed of a complex network of green-painted steel beams and supports. Numerous large, horizontal pipes wrapped in silver insulation run across the facility. The background shows a clear blue sky and some distant industrial buildings. The overall scene is one of a modern, well-maintained industrial environment.

Reducing complexity, boosting productivity

Propelled by curiosity

Optimizing project specification with the UPC approach in 2019

A major onshore Oil & Gas expansion project was commissioned at a site in Central Asia to aid development and growth in the local region, a project requiring high-performance protective coatings with advanced application properties. Interbond 1202UPC and Interbond 2340UPC were chosen for long term temperature and corrosion resistance, each providing a unique advantage to the project.

By choosing the Universal Pipe Coating (UPC) approach, the asset owner simplified their complex coating specification for process pipes, standardizing the offer to just two coatings. Interbond® 1202UPC offers the ultimate in temperature and corrosion protection, thanks to its inorganic copolymer resin system, fully curing at ambient temperatures. Meanwhile, Interbond 2340UPC represents outstanding application properties such as high tolerance to over-application and fast cure even at sub-zero temperatures. Both products provide long term resistance to aggressive corrosion under insulation (CUI) and meet the tough performance criteria of the ISO12944-9 cyclic aging test.

Thanks to the versatility of the UPC range and the global expertise of AkzoNobel, the project owners were able to minimize the number of different coatings and receive them all from a single manufacturer, massively reducing the specification complexity. The result was a specification tailored to increase productivity, while reducing rework costs and the risk of early coating failure, ensuring easier maintenance and repair work in the future.



Reduced specification complexity provided a substantial advantage to both asset owner and the fabricator, maximising cost savings across the huge scale of the project.

Key benefits of specification standardization:

- Improved application quality
- Reduced rework costs
- Increased productivity

“AkzoNobel secured this project thanks to the reliable, proven performance of the UPC range, combined with our global reach and technical expertise” explained George Sykes, Oil & Gas Product Manager at AkzoNobel. **“The aim was to reduce project costs whilst maximizing productivity - the Interbond UPC range was the natural choice.”**

Equipment operating temperature range	Coating	End Use
-196°C to 205°C (-321°F to 401°F)	Interbond 2340UPC	Insulated or uninsulated carbon or stainless steel
205°C to 650°C (-321°F to 1202°F)	Interbond 1202UPC	Insulated or uninsulated carbon or stainless steel



Service conditions:

Temp range -196°C (-321°F) to 650°C (1202°F), carbon steel, stainless steel, insulated equipment, uninsulated equipment

Traditional specification:

Number of traditional coatings required = >7

UPC specification:

Number of coatings required = 2