

“Know thy enemy”

– Sun Tzo, The Art of War

Corrosion

Chemistry

Causes

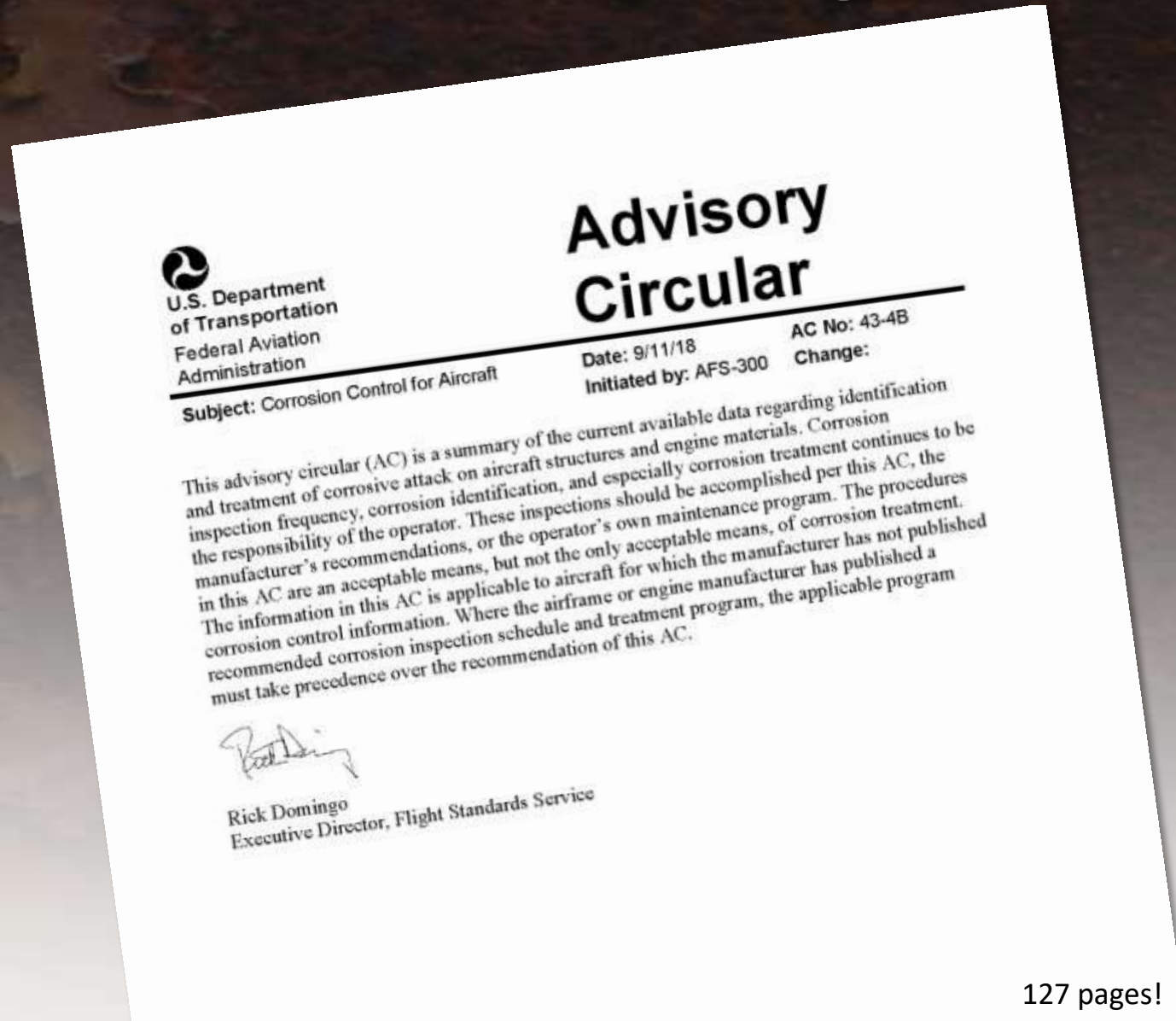
Cures

Average Age of the **General Aviation Fleet:**

38.1 Years ... and growing older

Source: General Aviation Manufacturers Association 2019 Databook

The FAA is Paying Attention



Chemistry 101: What is corrosion?

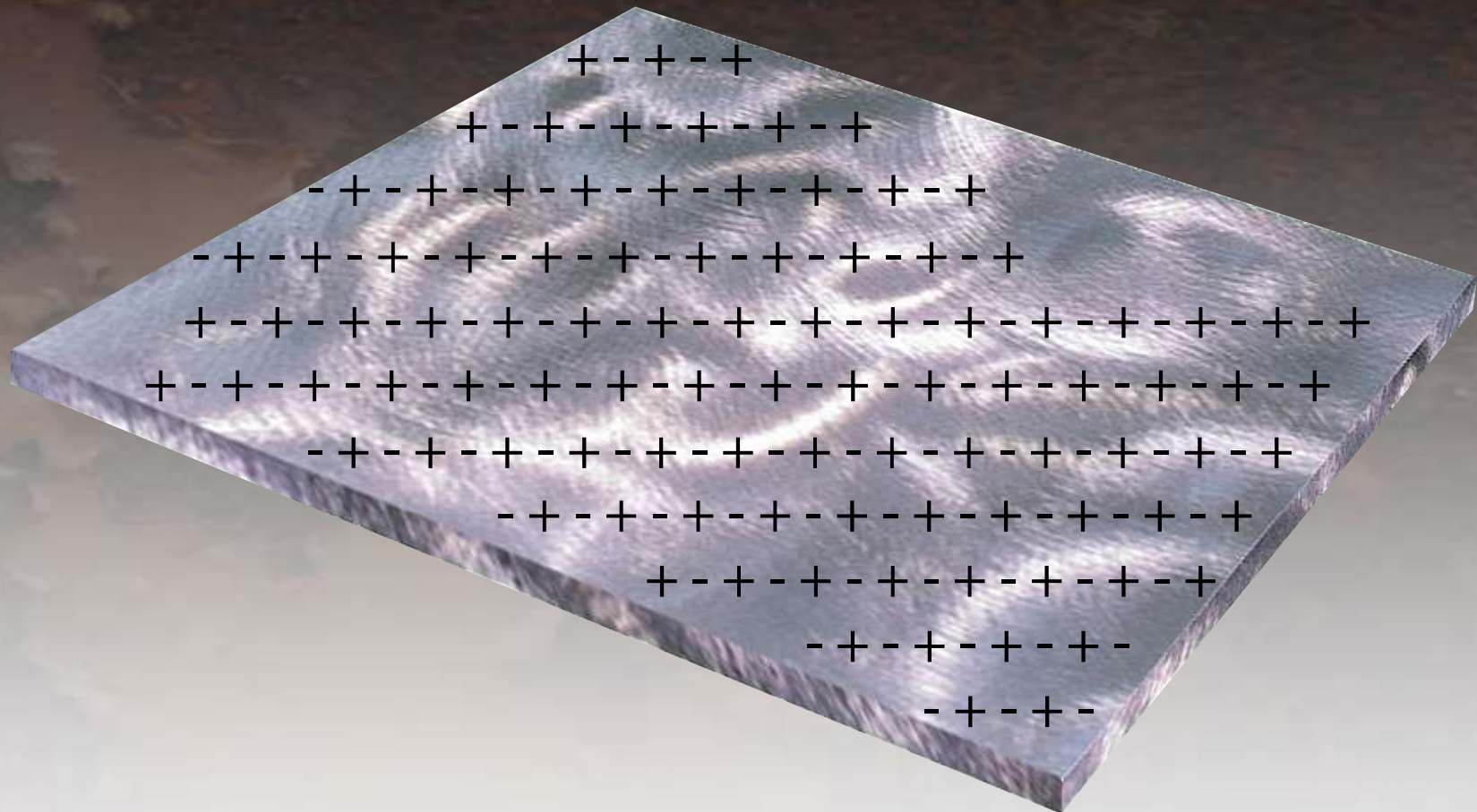
- 💧 “The gradual destruction of materials (usually metals) by chemical reaction with their environment.”
– Wikipedia
- 💧 “An **electrochemical reaction** that converts metals back to their natural state – an oxide.”
– J.D.

Some Causes of Corrosion

- 💧 Begins on the surface of the metal / metal alloy
- 💧 Availability of oxygen
- 💧 Presence of electrolytes (rain, saltwater, dirt, battery fluids, dissolved engine exhaust gasses which become acidic, etc.)
- 💧 Dissimilar metals and/or stray current
- 💧 Design (faying surfaces, crevices) and manufacturing processes (cutting, machining, forming, welding, heat treatment)
- 💧 Biological organisms (slimes, molds, fungi – many of which can be microscopic)

The Battery Analogy

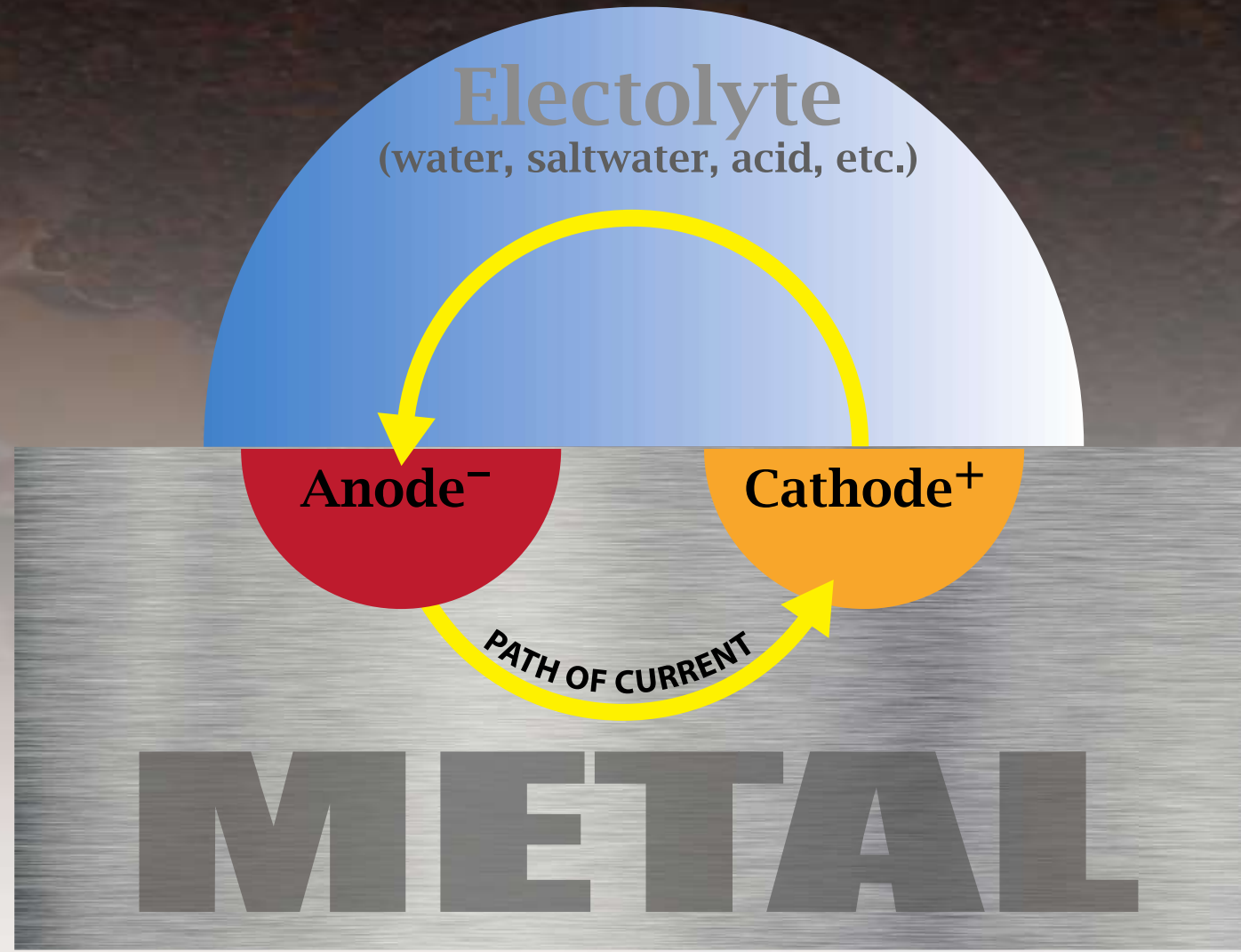
Chemically, the surface of common metals and their alloys can be visualized as a series of tiny batteries



Corrosion Components

The corrosion “cell” is like a tiny battery. It contains:

1. Anode
 2. Cathode
 3. Path of current
 4. Electrolyte
- 💧 Remove / interfere with any 1 component and corrosion cannot occur

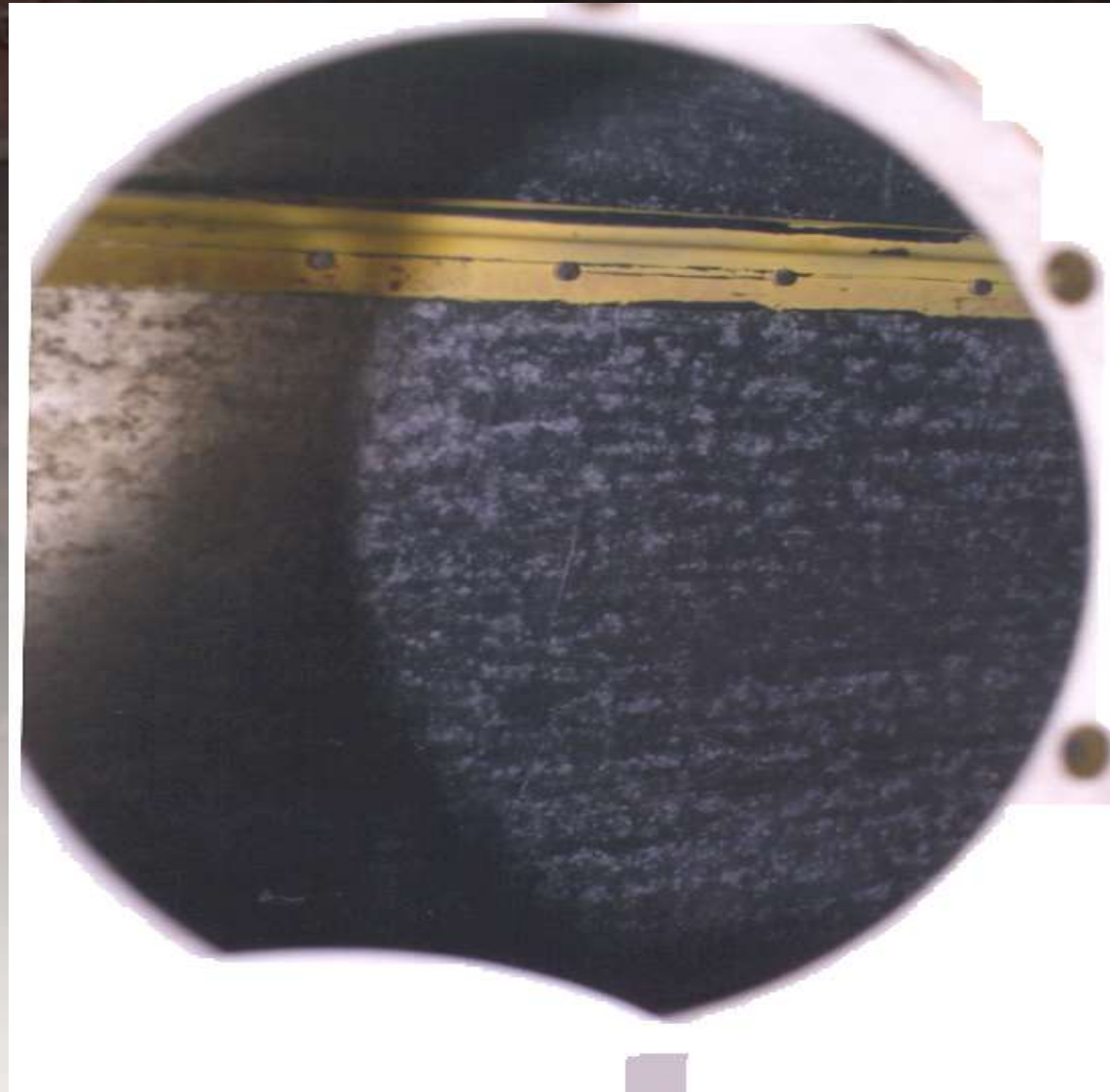


Where you'll find corrosion

Virtually anywhere there's metal or metal alloys, especially in places where moisture can sit. For example:

- 💧 “Bathtub fittings” on Bonanza and King Air
- 💧 Behind rubber door seals
- 💧 Around antennas, external fittings and hinges
- 💧 On landing gear and in wheel wells
- 💧 Around rivets, inside laps, seams and joints
- 💧 Anywhere you have dissimilar metals (stainless steel and aluminum – think stainless rivets)

What you're looking for: SURFACE

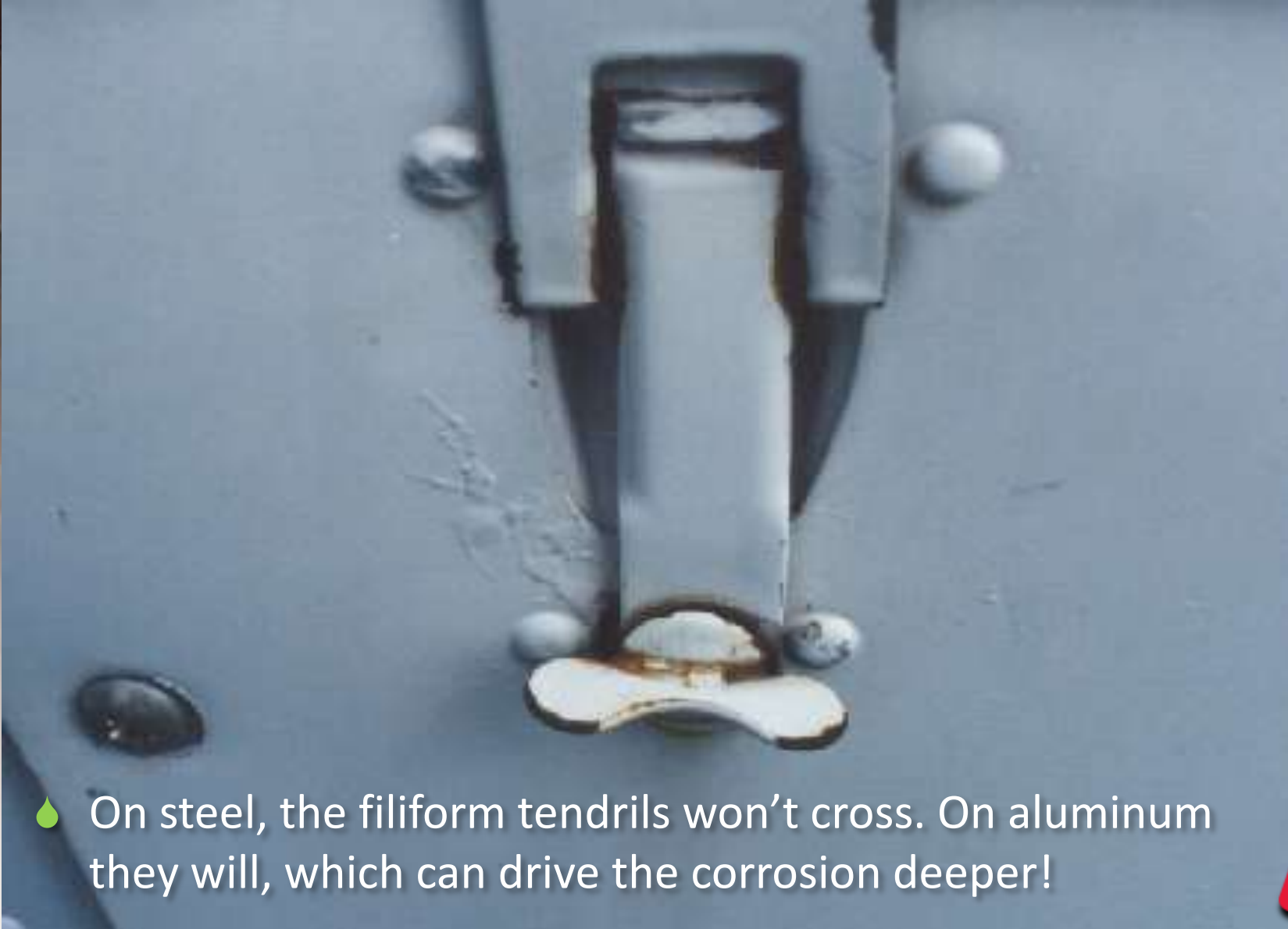


What you're looking for: GALVANIC



- ◆ Even the same grade of metal can corrode if the potential between the two is different enough!

What you're looking for: FILIFORM



- On steel, the filiform tendrils won't cross. On aluminum they will, which can drive the corrosion deeper!

What you're looking for: PITTING



- 💧 **Warning!** Most common on metals that form a protective oxide
- 💧 Tiny openings can penetrate deeply and create cavities that are much larger than surface openings!

What you're looking for: STRESS



💧 Often difficult to spot prior to failure

What you're looking for: INTERGRANULAR

- Caused by lack of alloy uniformity in the manufacturing process

What you're looking for: EXFOLIATION

- 💧 Difficult to detect initially
- 💧 Ultrasonic and eddy current inspection methods are being used successfully

Conventional Corrosion Prevention Methods

- 💧 Anodizing
- 💧 Plating
- 💧 Cladding
- 💧 Zinc Chromating

They're **NOT** working! Why?

- 💧 Vibration / abrasion, expansion / contraction
- 💧 Imprecise application
- 💧 Does not address existing corrosion
- 💧 Nothing lasts forever

There's a Best Tool for Every Job

💧 Factory vs. Field

Best Practical Solutions

Treat with your choice of two types of sprayable corrosion preventive compounds

1. Barrier Coatings
2. Fluid Thin Film Coatings (FTFC)

Barrier Coatings

- 💧 Been around for years, some more effective than others
- 💧 Usually wax-based in aviation industry

Pros:

- 💧 Primary benefit is that they can be long-lasting initially

Cons:

- 💧 Require pre-removal of **all** corrosion
- 💧 High in VOCs
- 💧 Limited penetrating ability
- 💧 Opaque to some degree – hides trouble and makes inspection difficult
- 💧 Once exhausted, they must be removed
- 💧 Hard (expensive) to remove

Fluid Thin Film Coatings

- 💧 Newest proven corrosion prevention technology (1989)

Pros:

- 💧 Can be applied over existing corrosion
- 💧 Actively destroys corrosion cells
- 💧 Tremendous penetrating capability
- 💧 Doesn't interfere with inspections
- 💧 Easy to apply, and more thorough application
- 💧 Low in VOCs, minimal environmental impact

Cons:

- 💧 Biennial reapplication (depending on environment)

Barrier Coatings vs. CorrosionX

Barrier Coatings (passive)	CorrosionX (active)
Opaque (hides rust)	Transparent
Thick film (100ths)	Thin film (4/10,000ths)
Comparatively heavy	Practically weightless (180 lb. weight savings in 747 wings alone)
Coating compromised by abrasion, cracking, exhaustion of sacrificial ingredients	Bonded to metal surface and self-healing (Doesn't dry, crack, rub off, etc.)
Hardens, cracks, melts and voids	Flexible, , never dries, doesn't melt, fills voids
Can retain corrosion and moisture	Removes corrosion and moisture
No effect on galvanic, filiform or pitting	Dielectric value > 39,000 volts
Messy cleanup	No cleanup or removal required
Can contaminate oil and hydraulic fluid	Inner-engine and hydraulic tested
Expensive to remove and reapply	Less than \$50 of product treats standard single

Selecting A Product

There are three ways a product is approved for use on airframes in the U.S.

- 💧 Mil Spec

- Current revision of MIL-PRF-81309 is rev. H

- <https://qpldocs.dla.mil>

- 💧 JCAA approval?

- 💧 OEM Approval (how current is the approval?)

Note: The FAA does not approve or certify chemicals.



Penetration
as measured
by capillary
migration

Aged Film
characteristics
(7 days@160° F)

VOC

SALT SPRAY
days to
failure
steel

SALT SPRAY
days to
failure
aluminum

SO₂-SALT
days to
failure
aluminum

SSSA SPRAY
cycles to
failure
steel

FOGGABLE FLUID FILMS

New CorrosionX (CorrosionX Aviation)	9	Viscous Fluid	52g/l	<12, <12, 17, 18	35, 35	5 & 5	>12, >12, >12
Esgard PL-4 Class2 Grade 4	5	Fluid	99g/l	7, 11	15, 15		>12, >12, >12
Tectyl 511M Class 2 Grade 5	13	Fluid	335g/l	4, 4	5, 10, 10, 27		3, 4, 4
ZC-010	10	Viscous Fluid	576g/l	<1, 2	26, 27		2, 2, 3
ACF-50	9	Oily Fluid	>166.9g/l	2, 3	4, 4		1, 2, 3
CorrosionX (General Purpose)	8.5	Oily Fluid	?	2, 3	13, 19		1, 2, 3
Esgard PL-5 Class 2 Grade 5	10	Fluid	19g/l	1, 2	5, 7		1, 1, 1

Recommended by JCAA

Not recommended

Source: 2004 Joint Council on Aging Aircraft National Strategy Synopsis Briefing

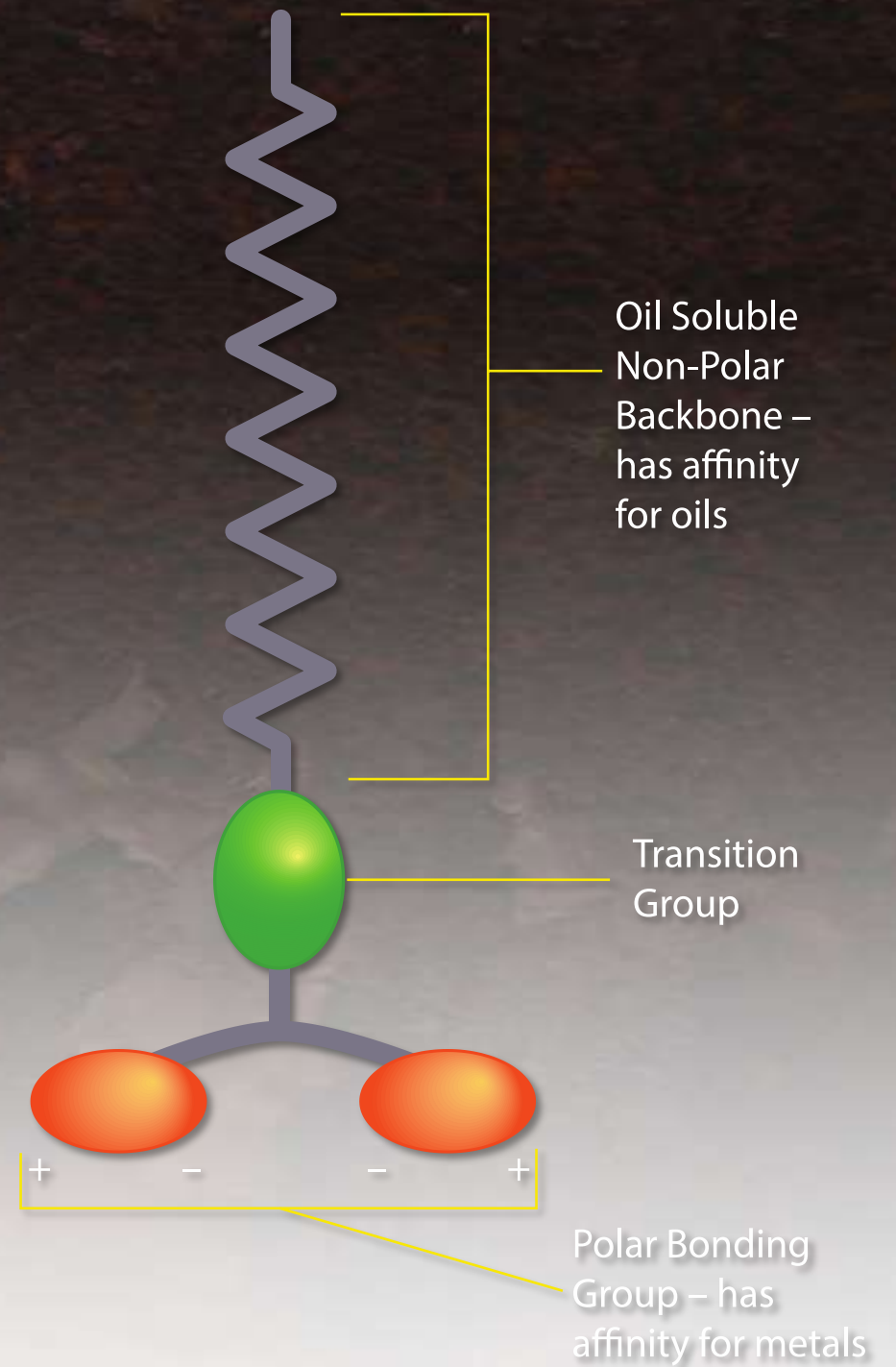
Only One Mil Spec Approved Product Uses FTFC Technology



How CorrosionX[®] Works

The CorrosionX molecule

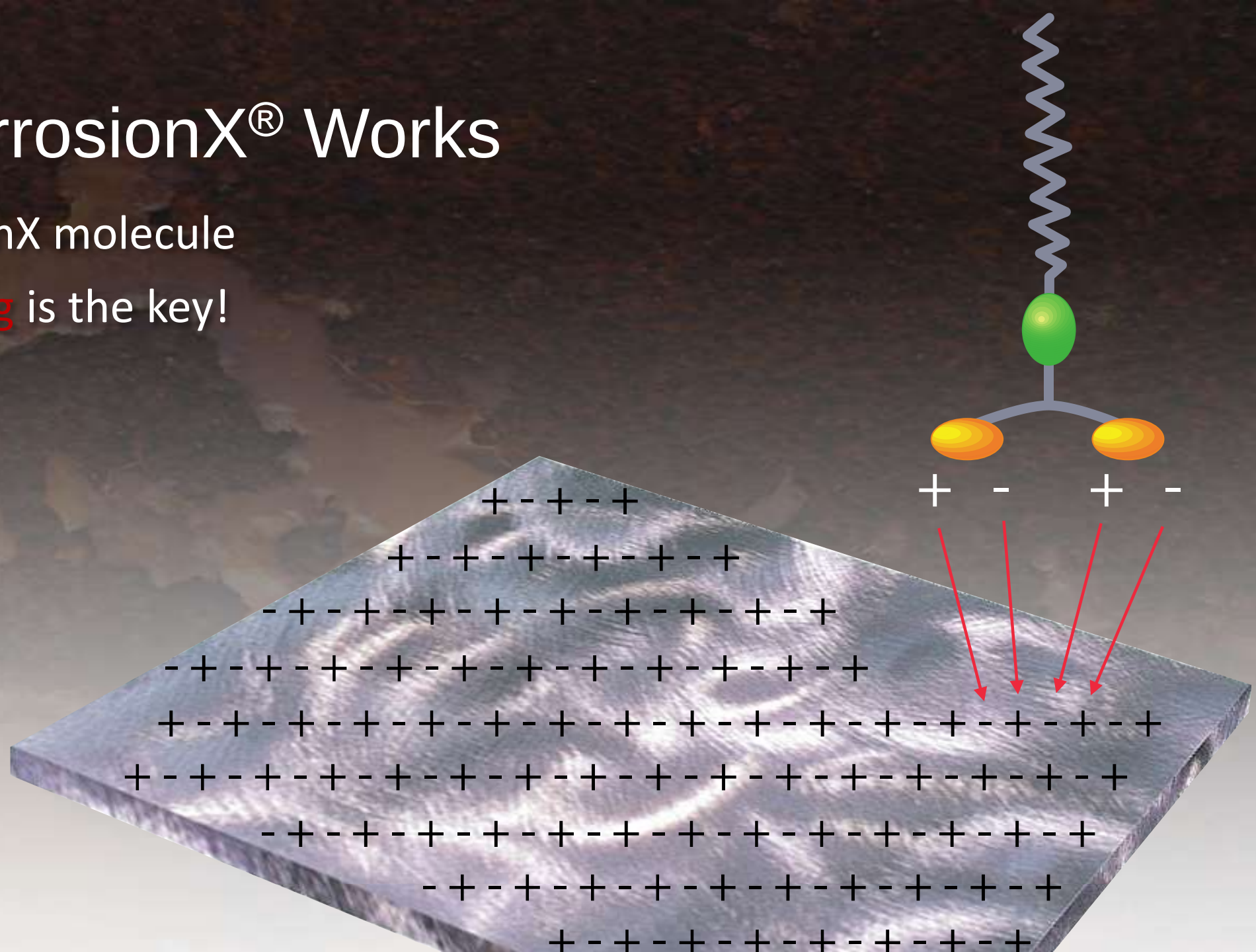
Polar Bonding is the key!



How CorrosionX[®] Works

The CorrosionX molecule

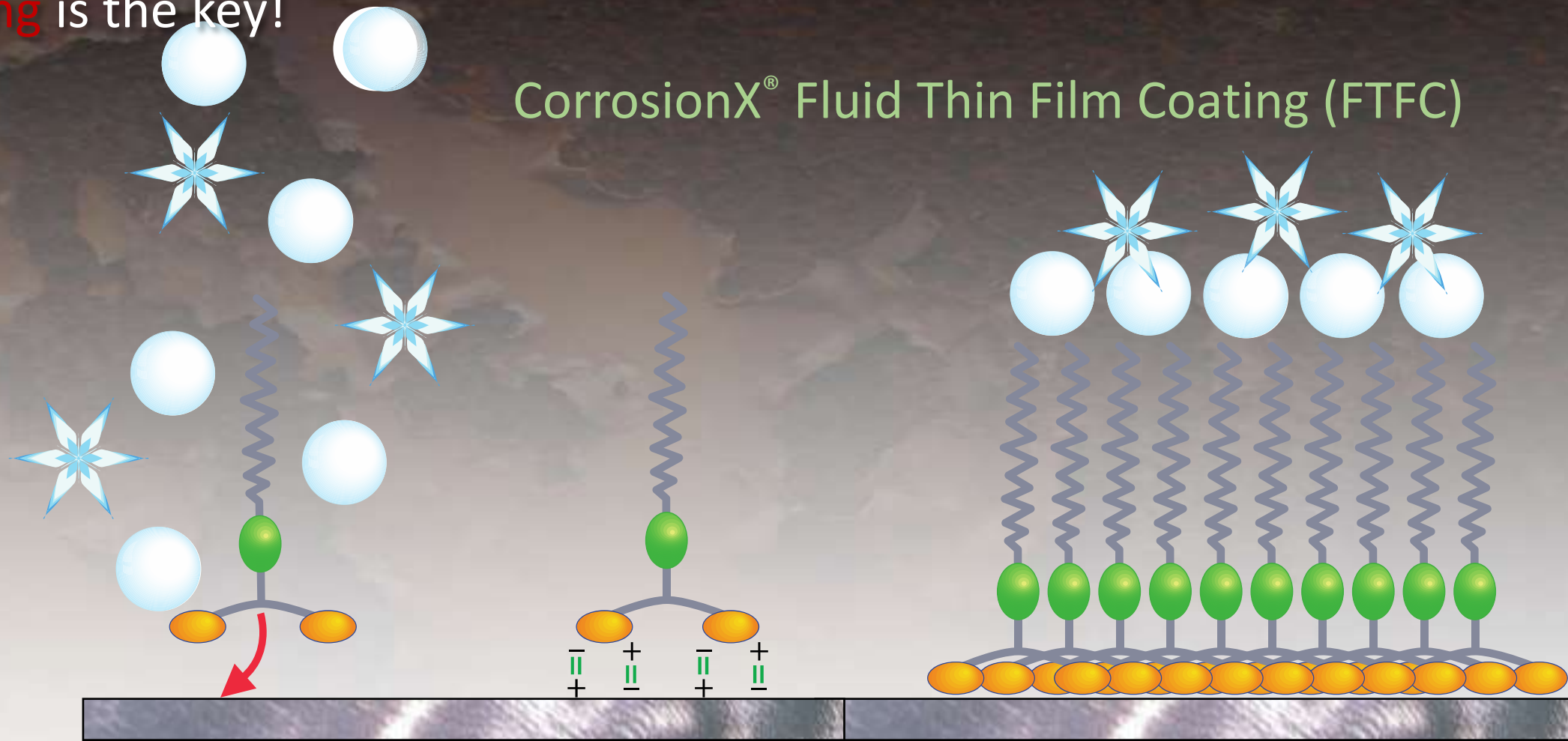
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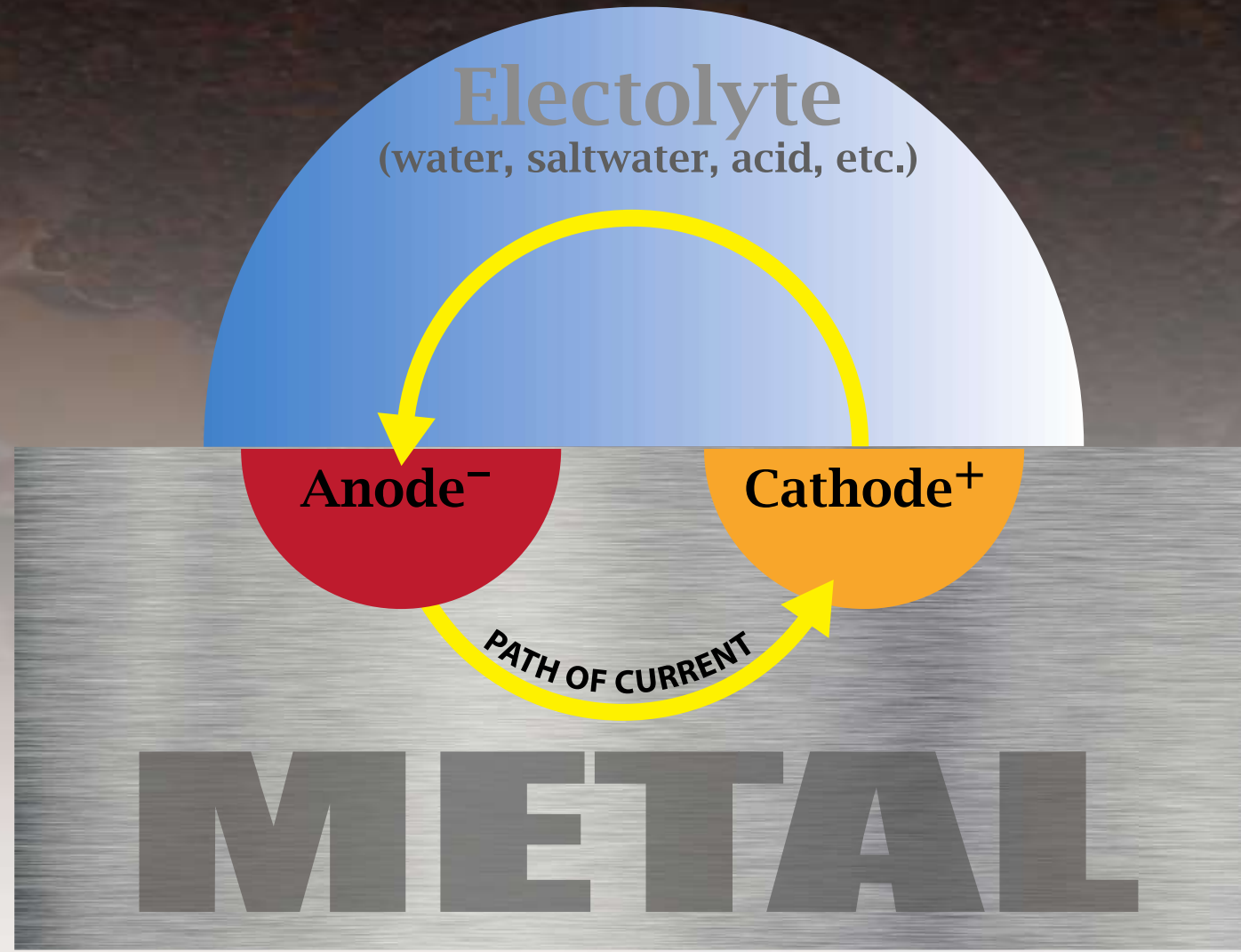
Polar Bonding is the key!



Corrosion Components

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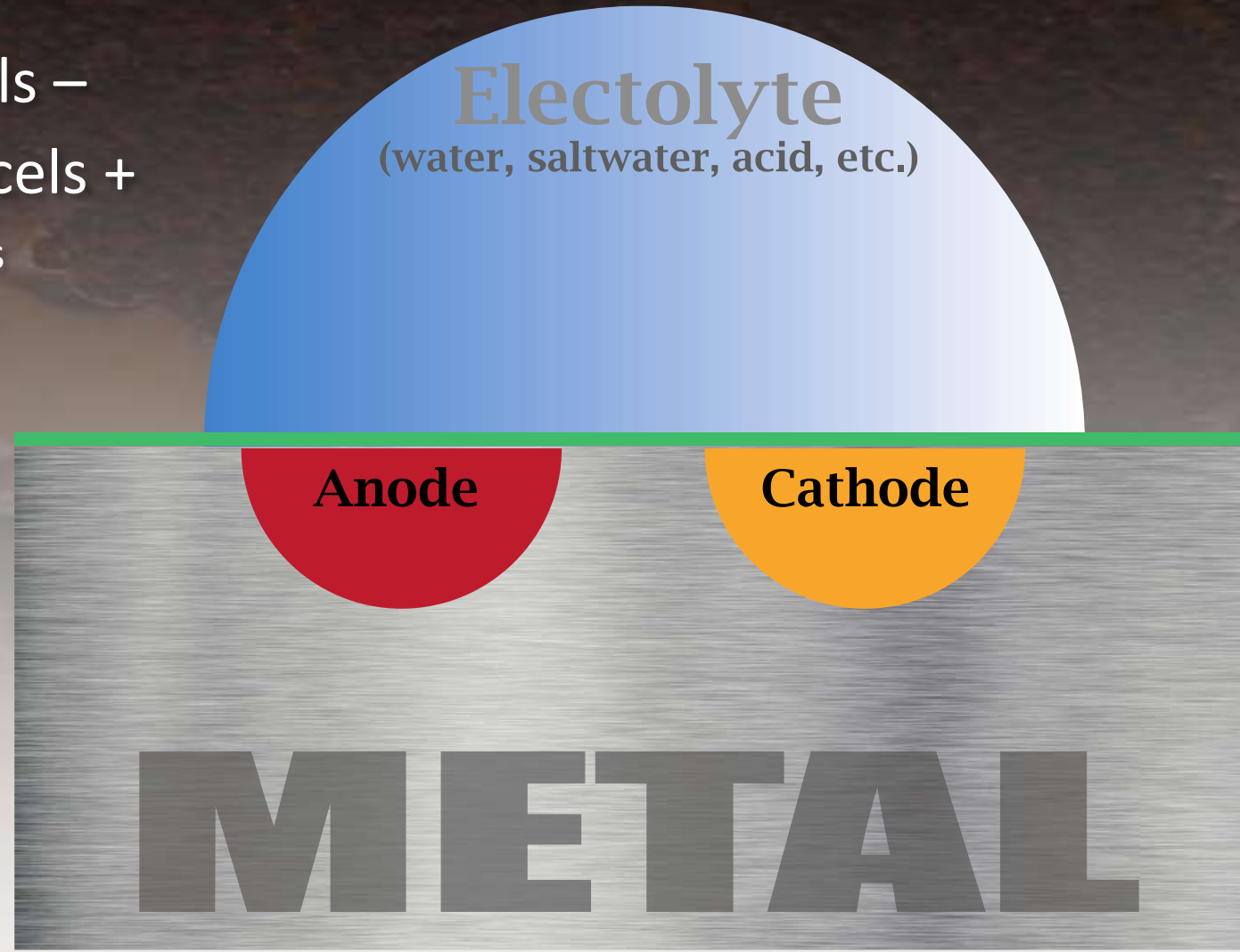
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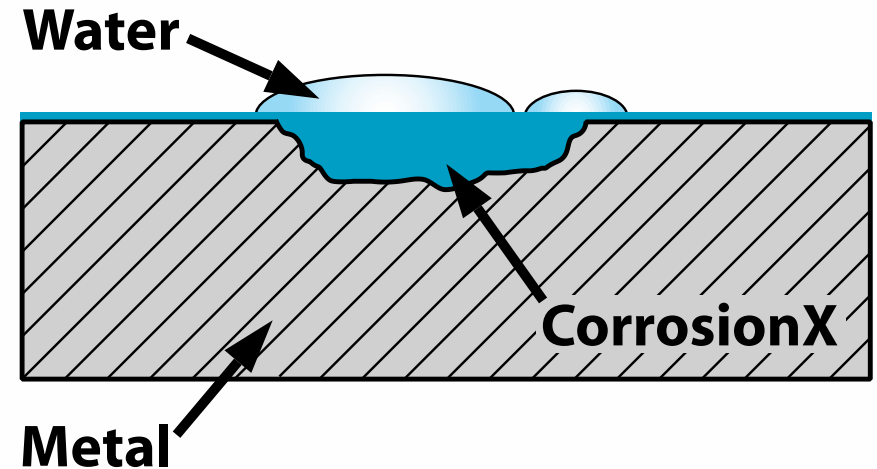
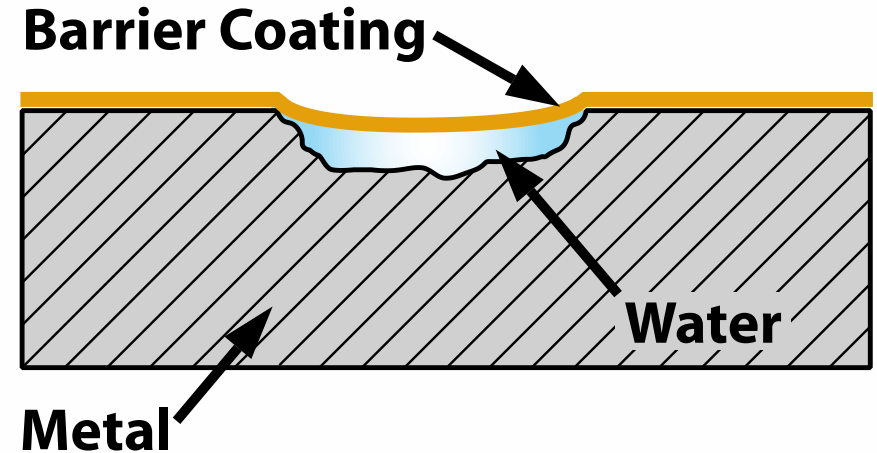
CorrosionX[®] **Kills** Corrosion

1. Anode: Passivates surface, cancels –
2. Cathode: Passivates surface, cancels +
 - Makes common metals and metal alloys behave more noble
3. Path of current: Eliminates with massive > 39,000V dielectric
4. Oh yeah, and it's also a fantastic 'inhibitor' – isolating metal from corrosion-causing electrolytes with self-healing FTFC



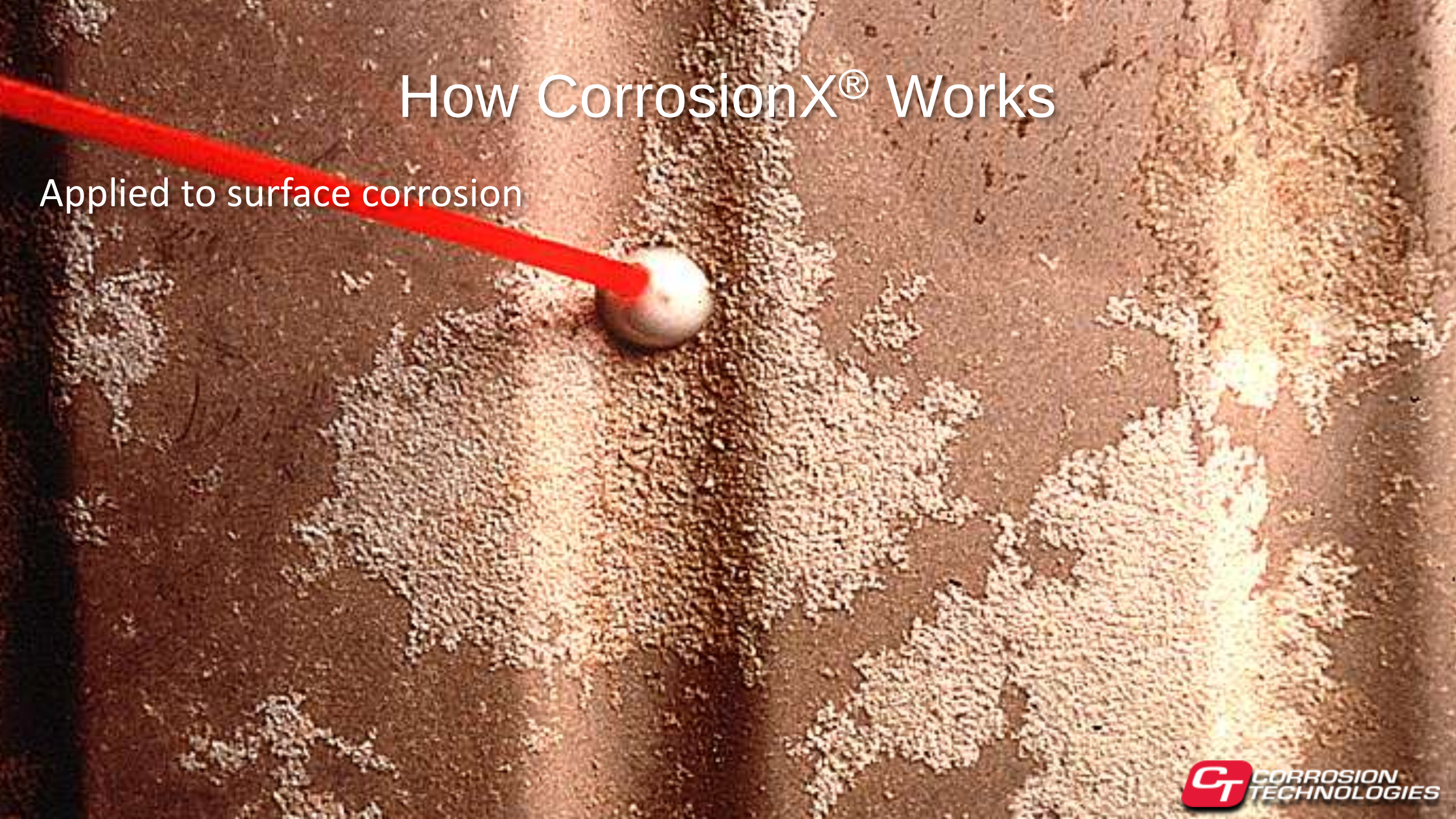
How CorrosionX[®] Works

Here's what all that chemistry and technical mumbo-jumbo translates to in real-world applications



How CorrosionX[®] Works

Applied to surface corrosion



How CorrosionX[®] Works

Applied to surface corrosion

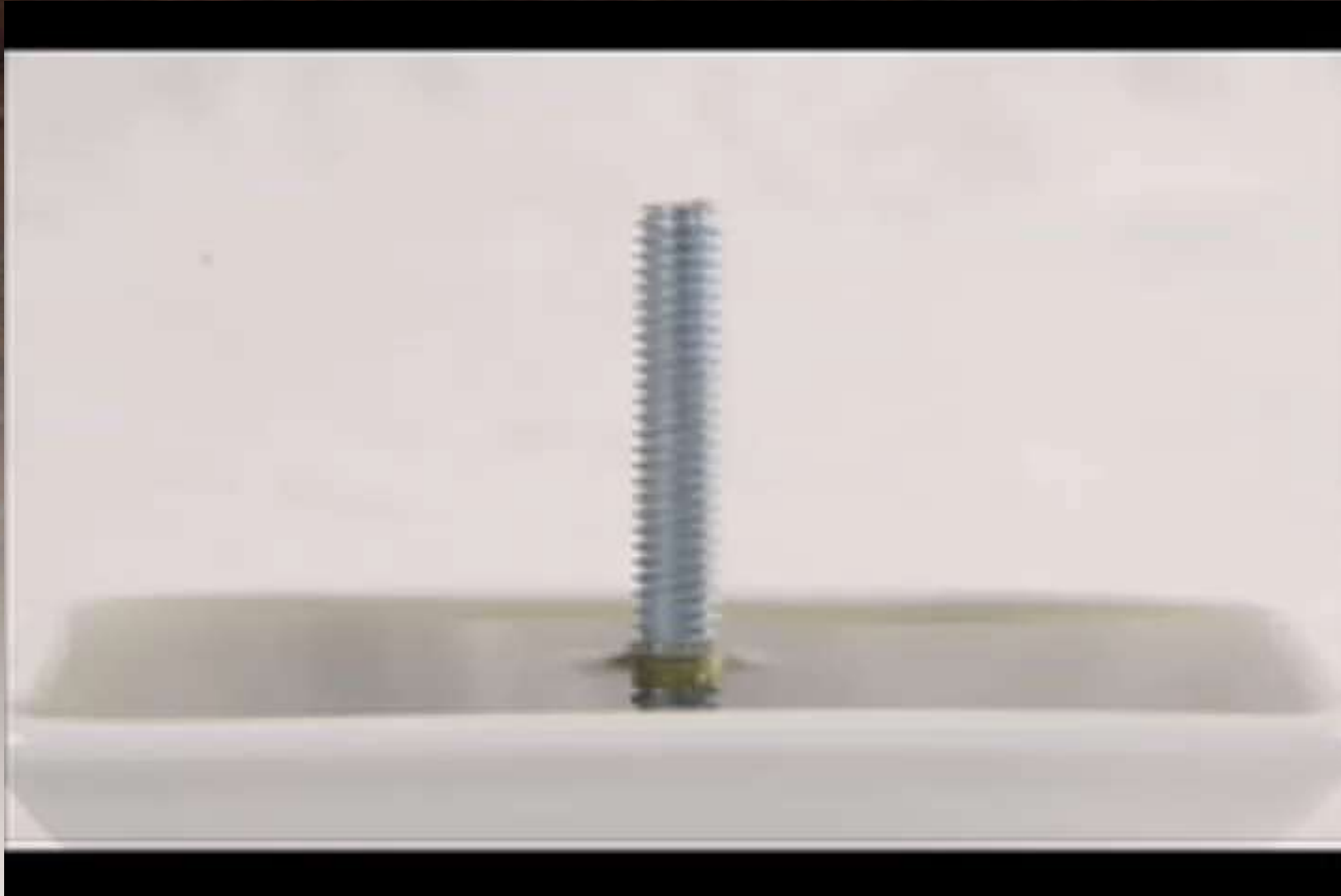
💧 30 seconds later

How CorrosionX[®] Works

Applied to surface corrosion

💧 After 5 minutes

How CorrosionX[®] Works





How CorrosionX[®] Works



How CorrosionX[®] Works

High dielectric also assures safety near electrical components



CorrosionX

WD-40

CRC 3-36

PB Blaster

LPS-3

LPS-2

June 21, 2005

CorrosionX

WD-40

CRC 3-36

PB Blaster

LPS-3

LPS-2

July 21, 2005

Mild steel panels after one month of saltwater exposure

CorrosionX

WD-40

CRC 3-36

PB Blaster

LPS-3

LPS-2

August 21, 2005

Mild steel panels after two months of saltwater exposure

Handi-Spray Application System

- 💧 Atomizes CorrosionX and other corrosion preventive compounds into microdroplet “smoke”
- 💧 40 – 60 psi
- 💧 3 – 4 cfpm
- 💧 Various sizes available
- 💧 Can purchase individually or as part of the CorrosionX Aviation Official Treatment Center Program





Success In The Real World

- ✔ Approved for use by Boeing, Cessna, Learjet, Mooney, Raytheon, Saab, Sikorsky and many others
- ✔ Hundreds of GA aircraft treated every year by shops in most states
- ✔ Nearly 200 Official Treatments Centers in U.S. and abroad

Questions?

CorrosionX Poland

www.corrosionx.pl