There have been several industry discussions on the application of deck coatings to an unvented metal pan deck. Some people believe that if you can pass a Black Mat test (ASTM D 4263) or pass a Calcium Chloride Test (ASTM F 1869) or even aggressive shot blasting followed by a 100% epoxy with an aggregate broadcast, the application can be done.

The only true safeguard for a deck coating job on an unvented metal pan is to vent the metal pan, this is done by drilling 1/4 to 1/2 inch holes in the deck’s underside spacing them 12 to 18 inches apart. (final spacing and hole locations must be determined by a structural engineer).

An unvented metal pan deck leaves no place for entrapped moisture to go except up, increasing the potential for coating delaminations and blisters. If chlorides are present in the host concrete there can also be a dramatic increase in corrosion rates when membranes are applied to an unvented metal pan structure.

Note: Any recommendations contained in this Technical Bulletin must not be construed as an authorized directive to the contractor or owner to proceed with work. This Technical Bulletin serves as the technical opinion only.
HEALTH, SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL

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