



## NORTHSTAR BY LUSID TECHNOLOGIES

### – LOS ANGELES METRO

Lusid began its relationship with Los Angeles Metro in 2001. Metro is the second largest public transportation company in the US with 3,000 busses. To fully understand the relationship between Lusid and Metro, it is essential to define the requirements necessitated by the bus environment.

**Metro** busses are usually driven and operated for 16 hours per day, close to 365 days per year. The exterior of the busses is subject to full sun particularly in southern California, spillage of fuel on the exterior surfaces, constant scratching and marring due to tree branches and debris, the lure of graffiti artists, and lastly the extreme bus washers.

**Metro busses are purchased new from the factory and go through the following life cycle:**

- **4 years** – Bus goes through Half Life Maintenance. This generally will include a full exterior paint job.
- **8 years** – Bus goes through Full Life Maintenance. This includes another paint job as well as full and complete over haul.
- **12 years** – Bus undergoes another Half Life Maintenance. This will be the last paint job for the bus.
- **16 years** – The bus is sold or retired from service.

In the four-year period of each cycle, the parameters for Lusid were to insure color consistency from bus to bus, maintain high gloss levels, avoid loss of adhesion due to graffiti removal, tree branches and debris, and importantly survive daily bus washer use.

Metro switched to a new color scheme in 2003- 04 using a Poppy Orange (California state flower color) and silver metallic for mainline busses. The color scheme was demanding due to VOC rules and regulations and ban on leaded coatings in the state

of California. Lusid was able to formulate the Poppy Orange in a high opacity lead free Orange that used the latest in pigment and UV technology. This allowed full coverage in two coats and saved time compared to other available paint systems.

Lusid also formulated a low VOC metallic basecoat for application of the silver. This prevented mottling on large expansive surface areas on a bus. The basecoat was then followed by a high solids low VOC Clear that not only enhanced performance, but was effective in graffiti protection.

After the initial 6-8 years of using Lusid products, **Metro** came to realize that the repaints using Lusid's products were outlasting the OEM finish. The Lusid products had better gloss retention, handled the bus washers better, and the color was consistent. **Metro** also noticed that each batch of new busses from the OEM were different in color, and the silver metallic was mottled. Lusid was required to formulate numerous versions of the Poppy Orange to perform spot repairs on the newer vehicles.

After years of seeing the performance of Lusid products, Metro now specifies Lusid to the OEM. While there is always resistance to change, the Lusid products are OEM friendly as well. Better coverage, higher gloss, color consistency, and faster cure rates are indicative of Lusid's products. Success with **Metro** has led Lusid to many other public transit companies as follows:

- **Chicago Transit (CTA)** – has used Lusid for more than 10 years and specifies Lusid at the OEM level
- **Miami-Dade** – has used Lusid for more than 10 years



- **Dallas-Ft. Worth (DART)** – has used Lusid for more than 2 years on both light rail and bus
- **Sydney Australia**
- **Vancouver, BC Canada**
- **Numerous** smaller transit companies enjoy Lusid products

Lusid has been a leader in fleet coatings throughout North America for almost 20 years. Lusid prides itself in environmentally friendly coatings with excellent performance characteristics and ease of use.



## ABOUT LUSID TECHNOLOGIES

### Our Mission...

Lusid Technologies is dedicated to supplying state-of-the-art product technology to the OEM, Fleet, Automotive and Light Industrial marketplace. Our Northstar™ products are automotive quality tailored to meet Fleet and OEM application requirements. Lusid's research and development laboratory, coupled with our Sales Team, work diligently to ensure suitable applications for our customer needs. Our continuing rapid sales growth fuels our mission and is a testament to its success. We invite you to join this effort and work with Lusid. We are meticulous and determined in our efforts to deliver the finest paint products for the future with passion and integrity.

**Lusid Technologies Northstar  
brand available through:**



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