

UNUSUAL PRODUCTS

Clean, Safe and Biodegradable ORGANIC RUST REMOVER

This column is designed to showcase a product which can make your restoration job a little better, a little faster, or just a little easier. Products shown here are not necessarily new, but they might fall into the less-than-common usage category. We are not necessarily endorsing the product or the manufacturer, but just passing the information along to you.

One meets the most interesting people at Jay Leno's Garage. Several months ago I was scheduled to shoot a video with Mr. Leno. Things never go according to the call sheet or the planned schedule. I was sitting in the kitchen (a central gathering place while we all waited) and I struck up a conversation with a gentleman sitting nearby. It turned out that Tim S. is the national manager for Archoil, makers of some very advanced technological products, most designed to reduce friction. One of the products that he told me about though was a rust remover. I would have discounted it out of hand just based on what he told me, but he brought samples, and one of the mechanics in the garage brought in a crankshaft that had been lying in his backyard for, oh, probably years and years. They submerged the crankshaft in a bucket of the Archoil de-ruster and after an hour pulled it out to examine it. An amazing amount of rust was gone.

I picked up a bottle of the stuff and read the label and the information sheet that came with it. Rather than paraphrase, here is their website blurb:

AR5100 is an organic industrial grade corrosion remover that dissolves the heaviest corrosion from metals and at the same time is harmless to people and environmentally friendly, so it does not create waste disposal problems.

AR5100 quickly and efficiently removes rust from steel, iron, aluminum, brass, copper, chrome, and other metals and alloys. It will effectively remove corrosion and work its way to the bare metal while leaving other materials - plastics, rubber, paint, etc. unharmed.

AR5100 will work its way into the tightest areas. These areas may be impossible to reach by grinding, blasting, or other mechanical means.

Then Tim told me about the dilution. It couldn't be; he claimed 16 parts water to 1 part of his AR5100 product. That means that a pint (16 ounces) of concentrate will produce two gallons of de-ruster.

I'm a skeptic, plus I have a responsibility to you, our reader. I cannot report on something that is outright bogus. "Send me samples," I requested of Tim. Shortly thereafter a parcel arrived. I had told Tim of a running board tool box which I found on a car sitting in a field for years, and then the box sat out-of-doors at my home for years, too. That's a challenge. I figured the box would fit into a plastic wastebasket - that's about a six gallon capacity. Tim sent me three pints plus a pint of rust preventative, a clear, non-oily, non-sticky concentrate which paints or sprays on and protects against flash rusting.

How did it work on my horribly rusted tool box? Well, whatever damage the corrosion had done would not be reversed. But after leaving the box (half in) the solution overnight, the rust was gone! The metal will have to be surface filled before painting, but the rust is no longer a problem.

- 100% organic & biodegradable
- Non flammable
- Contains no acid
- Ferrous & non ferrous metals
- Non toxic
- Reusable
- Non polluting
- Aqueous based

