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## Taking the Salt Out

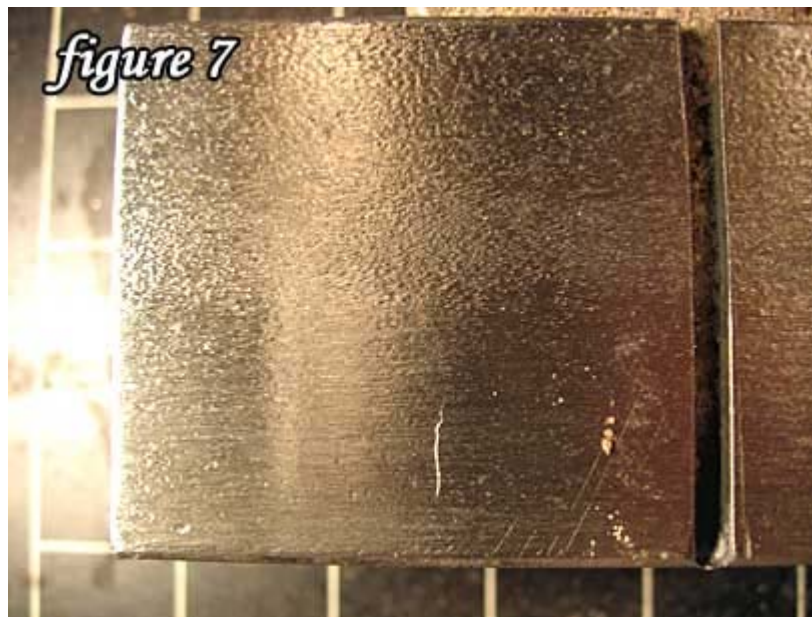
**Testing of popular solvents on the removal of salt formed from corrosive ammunition firing**

Article Written by: [R. Ted Jeo](#)

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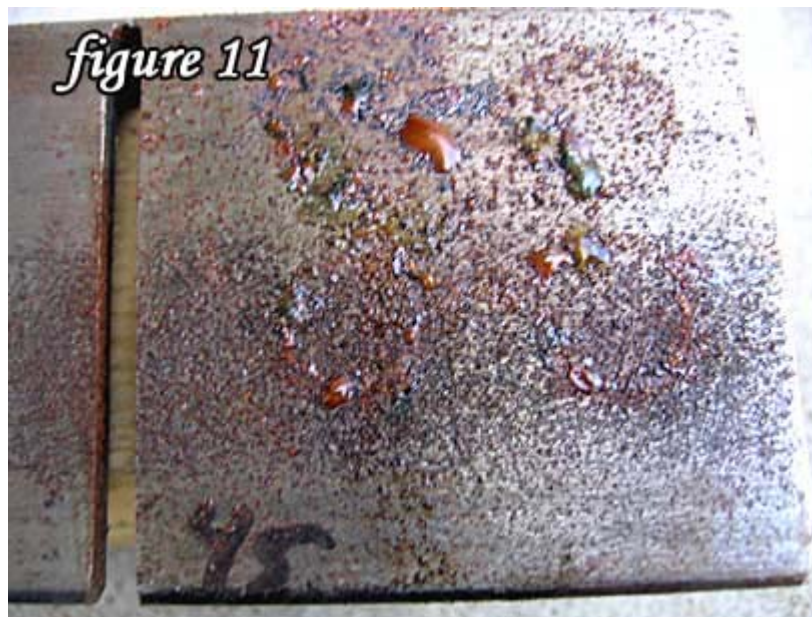
### Test Results Part One



**This is a before treatment shot of the control, no solvent, no salt (Figure 7) and an after treatment (in 99% humidity) of the same section at the bottom (Figure 8). Note, small rust speckles, most likely from salt water splatter when sizzling it on the adjacent section.**







**All four of these images (Figures 9 through 12) are salted untreated controls. Notice how the rust is seriously formed in/around/with the salt area. It's not just a "light rust" coat. It is some serious nasty looking rust.**

The best indication of how a solvent worked is to do a comparison of the treated controls above with the treated section of each solvent. Things to look for are whether you can see rust that looks wet, or you can see a definitive outline of where the salt used to be on the metal.

Explanation of Terms Used	
<b>Product Name</b>	Manufacturer's product name.
<b>Website</b>	Manufacturer's product website.
	Either what is printed on the label as to what the solvent is able to do, or the "sales pitch"

<b>Label Information</b>	taken off of the company web site or sales info site.
<b>Wife Rating</b>	Odor rating. A Scale of 0 to 2. 0= wife will kick you out of the house and 2 where the wife does not mind the smell.
<b>Odor/Characteristics</b>	A general description of what the stuff looks and smells like.

## Product Test: Gun Slick Ultra Klenz



<b>Product Name:</b>	Gunslick Ultra-Klenz (available as a liquid or an aerosol, liquid was tested)
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.gunslick.com/default.aspx">http://www.gunslick.com/default.aspx</a>
<b>Label Information:</b>	
Offers 99% powder removal. Use for everyday cleaning of your firearm, it has no hazardous or foul chemicals and offers a fresh cedar scent. Removes copper and loosens lead deposits.	
<b>Wife Rating:</b>	1.5 to 2 (depending on whether the wife likes the smell of cedar)
<b>Odor/Characteristics:</b>	
Clear liquid with a slightly heavy "woody cedar" scent that is not very strong in general.	

<b>Gun Slick Ultra Klenz</b>
<b>Rep One Salt Treated (10 Passes of Solvent)</b>



**Rep One No Salt (Control) (10 Passes of Solvent)**



**Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)**





Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)



Rep1 is the top two figures (Figures 13 & 14), Rep 2 (Figures 15 & 16) is the bottom two figures. Treated metal on the left, control on the right. (This format follows in all following solvents). There is some minor surface rust formed most likely from residual water from the cleaner. Compare the rust on these sections to rust caused by salt in the treated controls above. The rust on (#32 - Figure 15) is most likely from the section next to it.

## Product Test: Gunslick Foaming Bore Cleaner



<b>Product Name:</b>	Gunslick Foaming Bore Cleaner
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.gunslick.com/default.aspx">http://www.gunslick.com/default.aspx</a>
<b>Label Information:</b>	
No tough scrubbing, removes copper and powder effortlessly. Use for a fast easy and effective way to clean. Cleaner turns blue from dissolving copper deposits. Contains no harsh chemicals or ammonia and is not harmful to skin.	
<b>Wife Rating:</b>	1.5 to 2
<b>Odor/Characteristics:</b>	
Little to no discernable odor except for perhaps something from the propellant used. It comes out as a thick white shaving cream like foam. Seems simple enough to use.	

## Gunslick Foaming Bore Cleaner

Rep One Salt Treated (10 Passes of Solvent)





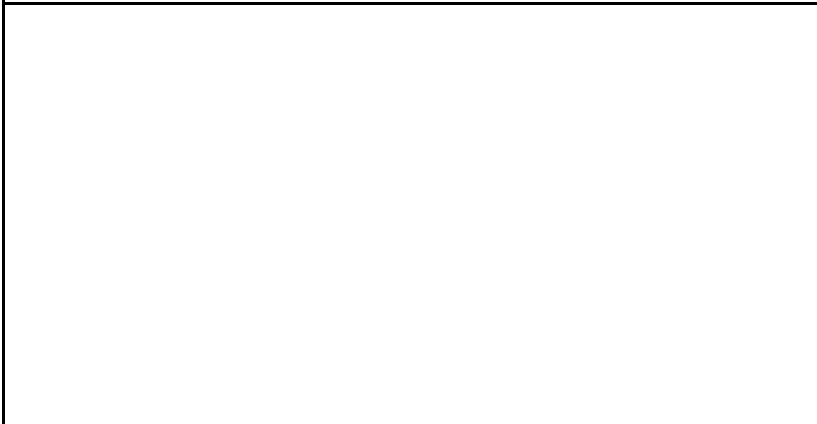
**Rep One No Salt (Control) (10 Passes of Solvent)**



**Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)**



**Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)**





The foaming bore cleaners were harder to test. I squirted some into a cup and wiped it onto the test area covering it completely and then wiped it off. The tests shown are sort of inconclusive, however I would say that the foam does dissolve the salt adequately. The pattern of rust formed again does not match rust formed from salt.

## Product Test: Outers Gun Cleaning Nitro Solvent



<b>Product Name:</b>	Outers Gun Cleaning Nitro Solvent (comes as aerosol or liquid, liquid was tested)
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.outers-guncare.com/default.aspx">http://www.outers-guncare.com/default.aspx</a>
<b>Label Information:</b>	
Removes lead, copper and powder fouling. Non-acid formula leaves behind a light layer of oil for corrosion protection.	
<b>Wife Rating:</b>	0.5 to 1
<b>Odor/Characteristics:</b>	
Stronger solvent smell, semi sweet in nature. Slightly yellowish liquid.	



## Outers Gun Cleaning Nitro Solvent

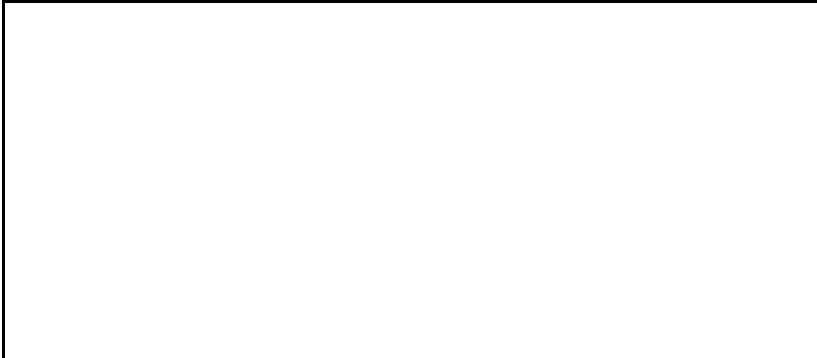
Rep One Salt Treated (10 Passes of Solvent)



Rep One No Salt (Control) (10 Passes of Solvent)



Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)







**Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)**



Here you can plainly see that the solvent did not remove the salt as it left behind the pattern that was created when the salt was sizzled onto the metal. Again, side areas on the control (Figures 22 & 24) are spill over from salt treated area adjacent to it.

## **Product Test: Butch's Bore Shine**



<b>Product Name:</b>	Butch's Bore Shine
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.lymanproducts.com/butch/Pages/butchbs.html">http://www.lymanproducts.com/butch/Pages/butchbs.html</a>
<b>Label Information:</b>	
<p>Butch's Bore Butch's Bore Shine is a revolutionary new gun solvent designed by well known bench rest competitor Butch Fisher. Since it's introduction in 1999 this product has literally set the market back on its heels. Butch's has received nothing but the highest praise from competitive shooting circles. And at this year's "National Bench Rest Championship" most of the competitors were cleaning with Butch's Bore Shine. Butch's is a non-abrasive chemical solvent specifically designed to remove all forms of Bore Fouling including copper with an absolute minimum of effort. It will quickly remove carbon build-up even in that "difficult to clean" throat area. It will easily remove lead, wax and even plastic from shotgun wads. However, unlike most powder solvents, Butch's can also control the copper fouling and by pushing a few patches soaked with Butch's will control copper build-up. Butch's is safe to use on carbon and stainless barrels.</p>	
<b>Wife Rating:</b>	0
<b>Odor/Characteristics:</b>	
<p>An eye watering, nose searing highly ammonia smell. This is not one to use inside any non ventilated building. Liquid.</p>	

<b>Butch's Bore Shine</b>
<b>Rep One Salt Treated (10 Passes of Solvent)</b>



**Rep One No Salt (Control) (10 Passes of Solvent)**



**Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)**





Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)



The patterning effect of the salt is still visible after cleaning. Even after 15 swipes (Figures 26 & 28) some salt patterning is still visible.

## Product Test: Pro-Shot Products 1 Step Gun Cleaner & Lubricant



<b>Product Name:</b>	Pro-Shot Products 1 Step Gun Cleaner & Lubricant
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.proshotproducts.com/">http://www.proshotproducts.com/</a>
<b>Label Information:</b>	
Excellent for lead, powder, plastic and copper fouling. Repeated use protects the bore and lessens fouling/residue buildup. Makes gun bores and actions easier to clean. Eliminated stiff actions, jamming and loosens rusted parts. Rust inhibitors and special additives penetrate the metal and provide a corrosion barrier for superior rust protection. Formula is based on a unique blend of non-hazardous and environmentally friendly ingredients.	
<b>Wife Rating:</b>	1.5 to 2
<b>Odor/Characteristics:</b>	
Very low, slightly sweet, odor pinkish thicker than water solvent.	

## Pro-Shot Products 1 Step Gun Cleaner & Lubricant

**Rep One Salt Treated (10 Passes of Solvent)**

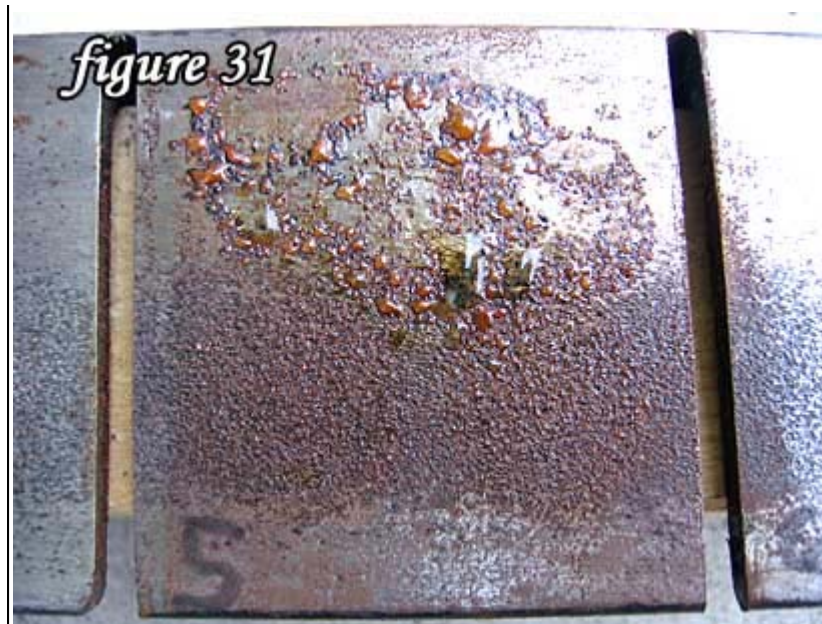


**Rep One No Salt (Control) (10 Passes of Solvent)**



**Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)**





Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)



A lot of salt still remained after cleaning and formed very evident rust droplets.

## Product Test: US Government Issue Rifle Bore Cleaner







**Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)**



**Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)**





Again, it is my belief that this particular can of solvent was no good. According to others, the solvent should have been whitish in color, this stuff was grey in color. The solvent seemed to do the job with 15 swipes instead of 10.

## Product Test: Eastern Maine Shooting Supplies Inc, Gun Solvent



<b>Product Name:</b>	Eastern Maine Shooting Supplies Inc, Gun Solvent
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://emshootingsupplies.com/index.html">http://emshootingsupplies.com/index.html</a>
<b>Label Information:</b>	
Formerly known as OX-YOKE	
<b>Wife Rating:</b>	0.5
<b>Odor/Characteristics:</b>	
Slightly diesel type smell. Golden colored liquid.	

**Eastern Maine Shooting Supplies**

## Inc, Gun Solvent

Rep One Salt Treated (10 Passes of Solvent)



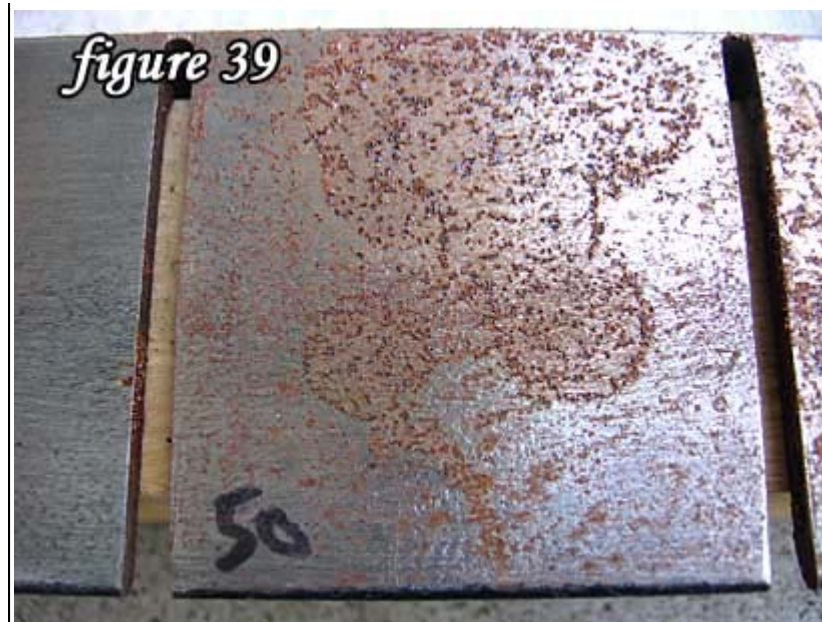
Rep One No Salt (Control) (10 Passes of Solvent)



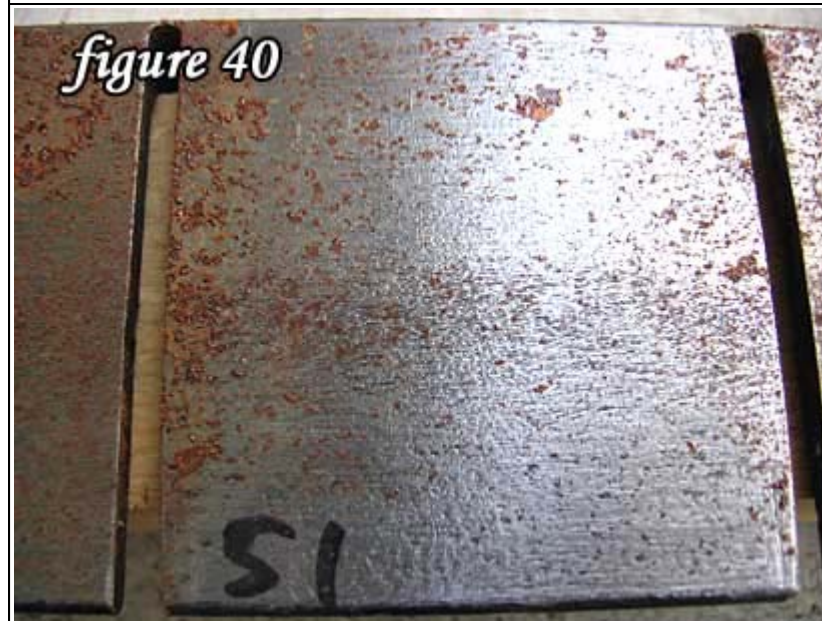
Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)







Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)



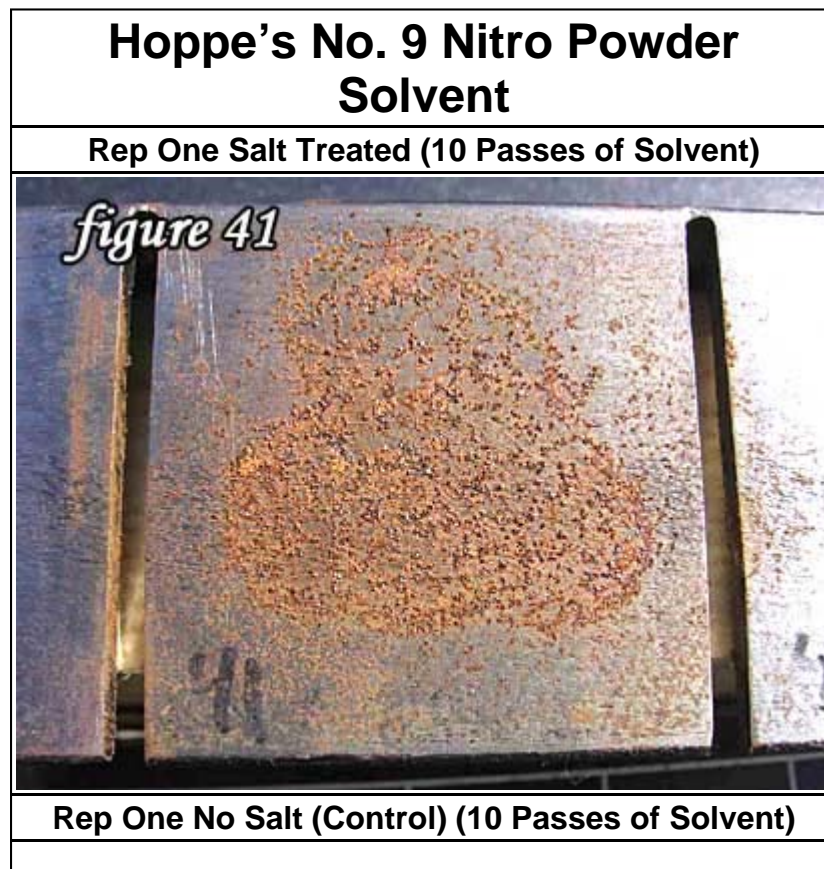
There was some salt removal, or perhaps more salt removal with 15 swipes (Figure 39) however the salt pattern is still evident.

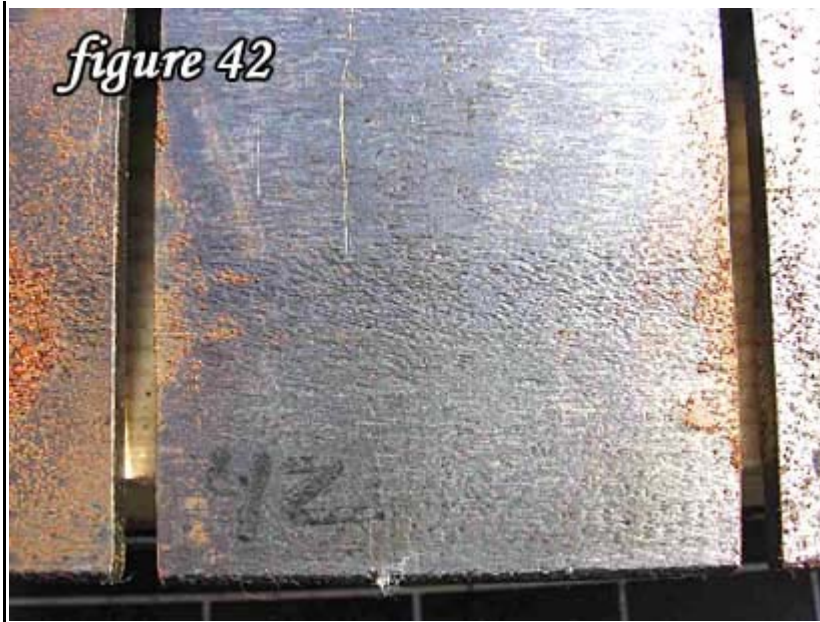
## Product Test: Hoppe's No. 9 Nitro Powder Solvent





<b>Product Name:</b>	Hoppe's No. 9 Nitro Powder Solvent
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.hoppes.com/brands.asp?manufky=1000007">http://www.hoppes.com/brands.asp?manufky=1000007</a>
<b>Label Information:</b>	
The most universally used solvent for removing primer, powder, lead and metal fouling – for preventing rust. Quick, super-efficient, safe and easy to use. Flows freely and penetrates rapidly. A favorite with sportsmen throughout the world.	
<b>Wife Rating:</b>	0.5
<b>Odor/Characteristics:</b>	
Sometimes referred to the “classic” gun solvent scent. Has a relatively pungent odor. Golden brownish liquid.	





**Rep Two Salt Treated (15 Passes of Solvent)**



**Rep Two No Salt (Control) (15 Passes of Solvent)**



Probably one of the worst test strips seen with very heavy rust formation on the treatment areas.

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