

Why AST Storage?

AST Storage is the premier manufacturer of powder-coated, bolted storage tanks. We were the first in the industry to use straight-seam, flat-panel construction and the first to produce powder-on-powder epoxy-coated tanks and silos. Our innovative design and manufacturing processes give you comfort knowing that your project will be on time, on budget and will withstand the test of time.

We're often asked three questions: why bolted tanks, why flat paneled construction, and why epoxy? Here are those questions, answered.

#1

Why select bolted tank construction over welded?

All parts of a bolted tank are standardized for consistency from one tank to the next. Standardized parts also mean that pricing is more standardized, eliminating costly overages. In addition, all coatings are applied in a factory-controlled environment for greater quality and durability. Erection time of bolted tanks typically averages 50% to 75% less than a welded tank. Bolted tanks are also more easily disassembled and moved than welded options.

In contrast, coatings applied to welded tanks cannot be applied until the tank is fully erected, which means more time on site. And, the quality of a welded tank coating is dependent on many variables, including the local painter, environment and weather.

#2

Why select a flat panel bolted tank instead of API 12B?

Flat-panel designs eliminate leaky flange connections and lap gaskets, and have steel overlaps on both vertical and horizontal seams. There also are no internal edges or crevices for product hang-up, nor any external ledges for standing water. AST Storage flat-panel tanks have only two exposed external edges compared to three exposed external edges in API 12B tanks.

Powder-coated floor

#3

Why select a powder-coated epoxy tank instead of glass?

	Powder Coated Epoxy Tank	Glass Tank
Panel Edges	<p>Complete edge coverage as well as bolt hole coverage</p> <p>No cracking occurs during torquing of bolts</p>	<p>Not glass coated; coated with stainless steel which will rust</p> <p>Bolt holes tend to crack when torqued too much</p> <p>Edges tend to crack and expose bare metal which leads to rusting</p>
Tank Material	<p>Use 1/2" steel plate in AWWA designs - AWWA D100 specs only require 1/4" minimum thickness</p>	<p>Use light-gauge steel with web stiffeners on outside of tank</p>
Bottom Angle and Manways	<p>Galvanized or epoxy coated which leads to an unfinished, unmatched appearance</p>	<p>Bottom angle is coated with the same epoxy as the side sheets</p>
Shipping	<p>Epoxy coating completely adheres to sheets which ship in perfect condition</p>	<p>Glass tends to crack off sheets during shipping</p>
Sealant	<p>Sealant color matches side sheet color</p>	<p>Black sealant on blue tanks creates a "picture frame" effect</p>
Field Repair	<p>Epoxy can be repaired in the field</p> <p>Epoxy has no Holiday Leakers from factory—if Leakers are detected in the field they can be repaired with similar type epoxy</p>	<p>Glass cannot be repaired in the field, must replace sheet which leads to extended erection time</p> <p>Holiday Leakers can only be repaired with sealant</p>
Hardware	<p>Mechanical galvanized</p>	<p>Mechanical galvanized</p>
Hot Water	<p>Epoxy coated tanks have been tested to 180 degrees Fahrenheit</p>	<p>Max of 140 degrees Fahrenheit</p>
Life Span	<p>Tested to 20 years with no adverse effects</p>	<p>Up to 30 years</p>
Recoating	<p>Can be sandblasted and recoated to extend service life</p>	<p>Cannot sandblast and recoat</p>



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