

## **VCI BAGS – USAGE INSTRUCTIONS**

Questions often arise regarding the proper use of VCI bags. For instance, many customers believe incorrectly that VCI bags must be completely sealed and airtight in order for them to be effective. This is not necessarily the case.

While absolute airtight packaging is obviously the most ideal situation for VCI rust protection, it is not required in order for VCI products to perform effectively. What is very important when using VCI products is that the VCI vapors must be enclosed or encapsulated in some manner – the more airtight the package the more effective the VCI protection will be. This is not to say that the VCI bag must be completely sealed – rather, the VCI bag can simply be folded over and kept closed with box flaps, or the VCI bag can be folded over and taped or stapled to keep it closed. The only thing you will be missing is the water tightness properties of a sealed bag; you are not losing anything on the VCI protection. So, unless your parts are going to be subject to a great deal of water spray, rain, etc., you will not be losing any VCI effectiveness by not completely sealing the VCI bag.

Also, packages may be opened and re-closed without negatively affecting the corrosion protection. VCI protection is self-healing, meaning that the rust preventative compounds outgas from the VCI bag until it reaches equilibrium, then it stops. When the package is opened, the VCI will again outgas until equilibrium is achieved once again, allowing for optimum corrosion protection.

### **Other Important Rust Prevention Tips**

- All employees who touch metal parts should wear gloves (production, inspectors, packaging, etc.)
- Keep production and packaging areas as cool as possible and low humidity.
- Do not use Rust Preventive oils in conjunction with VCI products.

Once our shipment is delivered to your door, it is also important that the VCI bag remain closed until the parts reach room temperature. Acclimation to room temperature on both sides of the shipping cycle will eliminate the flash rusting that can occur due to temperature fluctuations, moisture and condensation. This acclimation period can take 1-2 days, depending on the variation in temperature.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

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