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Better Bedliner

Line-X of Huntington Beach Sprays our Hot Rod Diesel

Text by Jeremy Cook ■ Photos by Steve Stillwell



Last month, when we covered the install of the ultra-cool new SnugTop lid onto our Hot Rod Diesel F-350 dually, you may have noticed the little yellow oval sticker on the rear glass. Or even the nice, evenly textured bed floor and sides. That's because just prior to our stop at SnugTop in Long Beach, we detoured to the World Famous Line-X of Huntington Beach, California, where Marcel Venable and his crew gave the short dually bed the VIP treatment.

That name may sound familiar because Marcel is a longtime friend of StreetTrucks, and as the director of marketing for Line-X for several years, he spearheaded the StreetTrucks Ranger giveaway truck a few years ago and is a big part of why the Line-X name is as big as it is today. Well, that and the superior product and process that Line-X dealers use to ensure an evenly textured coating. Line-X is actually a two-part polyurethane elastomer system. It uses equal parts of an "A" component or hardener and a "B" component or resin. When combined properly it produces a polyurethane elastomer similar to the bottoms of your work boots. The two liquid components are brought together at the tip of a purpose-built, high pressure spray gun. Line-X cures or "sets up" in three to five seconds, giving it an immediate set time. You are able to fully load your bed in as little as 24 hours. Best of all, because it is a protectant against dents and rust, Line-X actually adds resale value to your truck. Once we showed up for our appointment at Line-X, the entire process took about two hours. We've since loaded the bed with everything from wheels and tires to office equipment with minimal movement of the cargo and zero damage to the bed. Follow along, and for more information on the Line-X process, Line-X of HB, or a Line-X dealer near you, check the information in the Source Box at the end of the article. ■



You know those belts that Ford draps about in the commercials and hangs a track by? Well, they have to be removed before spraying so the bed can be removed later if need be.



Since super duty Fords have plastic caps on the bed rails, this will be an "under the rail" bedliner. Ivan began taping off from where the inner rail meets the bed metal.



In addition to protecting the paint, a piece of wire tape was run around all the edges so there is a clean sharp break once the masking is removed.

4



With the entire bed masked off, the next step was to scuff the paint everywhere that was being sprayed. This helps the *Line-X* bond to the surface better when sprayed.

5



Then the bed was wiped clean, and the Hot Rod Diesel was pulled into the spray booth.

6



From there, plastic is draped over the entire cab and taped down.

7



Preparation is extremely important in this process. Because of the strong bond *Line-X* makes with virtually any surface, all areas masked must be checked and rechecked.

8



Once it is time to spray, Guillermo suits up and begins the spraying process. Basically, a few passes are made to build up the material first.

9



Then the bed gets a series of "dustings" to create the unique *Line-X* texture.

10



Within a minute of the final spraying, Guillermo and Ivan begin removing the paper and plastic, then pulling up the wire tape.

11



While the truck was being sprayed, the tailgate was being masked off and wire-taped.

12



The tailgate got the same treatment as the bed. First the material is built up...

13



...then the texture coats are applied.

14



Unwrapped and out of the boat, the bed belts dropped into place...

15



...and buzzed back down. You may see bed belts that are sprayed over by other companies. It's a sure sign of a sub-par job.

16



The cargo loops are then reinstalled into each corner.

17



Then the tailgate is installed back onto the bed.

14



If you don't see this warranty card attached, it's not a genuine Line-X product.

15



Ah ha! That's where that Line-X sticker came from! We seem to have caught owner *Marcel Vanatév* tagging our ride.

16



And that's all there is to it. We now have a bed that we can haul custom truck parts in all week, but will clean up for a show on the weekends.

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