Selecting the right primer for the job is critical—especially on those demanding commercial and multifamily projects where you can’t afford a topcoat failure.

Luckily, your primer questions in many of these high-performance situations can be answered with one product: Pro Industrial Pro-Cryl Universal Primer.

Pro-Cryl is the recommended primer for the entire line of Sherwin-Williams Pro Industrial products, as well as many other topcoat products. Engineered for surfaces where rust and corrosion resistance is critical, it’s the perfect primer to use on rust-prone surfaces.

It’s also an excellent water-based alternative to solvent-based metal primers. Its low VOC, low odor formula is GreenGuard Certified and meets LEED specifications 09 CI, 09 NC, 09 CS and 09 S.

Pro-Cryl can be used as a primer under both water-based and solvent-based topcoats, including acrylic, alkyd, epoxy and urethanes. Its single component, fast-dry, fast-recoat formula will help you save on labor costs. It also has a low temperature application, so you can be confident applying it in temperatures down to 40°F.

McMillan Painting paired Pro-Cryl with a topcoat of Bond-Plex Waterbased Acrylic Coating in its recent restoration of the 110-year-old McCulloch County Courthouse in Brady, Texas.

“I’ve tried a lot of different products on metal, and I knew a system of Pro-Cryl and Bond-Plex would give us the aggressive adhesion we needed,” says Larry McMillan. “I used it on my own home’s metal roof and a number of school buildings with tremendous success.”

Traugott Painting & Decorating used a system of Pro-Cryl Universal Primer and Sher-Cryl HPA on all exterior metal on the Fort Sam Houston Medical Center project in San Antonio.

“We have had exceptional success with this system,” says Mike Traugott, president of Traugott Painting & Decorating. “Because of our high heat and humidity here in San Antonio, mildew is a major concern. We’ve found that acrylics like Pro-Cryl just hold up better than alkyds.”

Pro-Cryl Universal Primer is available in off-white, gray and red oxide colors at your Sherwin-Williams store.