



# Coating System Comparison Guide

*How Vitranar stacks up against every major coating system and why flexibility, color retention, and weathering protection change everything.*



## Why Coating Selection Matters

The coating system you choose determines how a building performs, looks, and holds its color for decades. Most high-performance coatings are rigid after curing, and any forming after application risks cracking and crazing, forcing fabricators into costly post-painting workflows and putting long-term warranties at risk.

### **Vitranar® creates a Weather-Ready Shield that lasts.**

Fairview Architectural's proprietary flexible-resin PVDF formulation delivers exceptional color retention, superior gloss retention, and proven 40+ year weathering resistance, including full coastal warranty coverage. Unlike rigid coatings, Vitranar remains elastic after curing, allowing pre-finished metal to be formed, bent, and fabricated without cracking, crazing, or finish compromise.



# Coating System Comparison Chart

Vitranar® Coil Coated vs. Major Competing Systems  
13 Key Performance Criteria

Performance ratings reflect exterior architectural cladding applications. Some systems may be appropriate for other use cases.

Criteria	VITRANAR® Coil Coated	Basic PVDF	FEVE	Polyester	SMP	Powder Coating	Spray Applied (Post Painted)
<b>DURABILITY &amp; WARRANTY</b>							
Warranty Potential	40 yrs — coastal included	10–30 yrs. No coastal	10–30 yrs. No coastal	5–10 yrs. No coastal	20–30 yrs No coastal	10–25 yrs No coastal	Project-specific
Weathering Resistance	★★★★★ Coastal certified	★★★★★ Inland only	★★★★★ Inland only	★★	★★★	★★★	★★★
Color Retention	Exceptional	Meets spec	Meets spec	Not recommended for ext. arch.	Limited suitability	Limited suitability	Depends on resin
Gloss Retention	Exceptional	Meets spec	Meets spec	Not recommended for ext. arch.	Limited suitability	Limited suitability	Variable
<b>FABRICATION &amp; FLEXIBILITY — VITRANAR'S UNIQUE ADVANTAGE</b>							
Post-Coat Formability	Bend, form, and fabricate freely. No cracking or crazing	Cracks formed after coating	Cracks formed after coating	Cracks formed after coating	Cracks formed after coating	Cracks formed after coating	Post-fabrication application only
Surface Hardness	Very good Stays elastic after cure	Good, but brittle	Good, but brittle	Moderate, brittle	Moderate, brittle	Good, but brittle	Poor — applicator-dependent
Workflow Impact	Pre-finish → fabricate freely	Fabricate first, then paint	Fabricate first, then paint	Fabricate first, then paint	Fabricate first, then paint	Fabricate first, then paint	Field or shop applied only
<b>QUALITY &amp; FINISH</b>							
Film Consistency	Factory precision Zero applicator variability	Meets spec	Meets spec	Meets spec	Limited suitability	Variable	Variable — applicator-dependent
Metallic Finish	Excellent	Meets spec 3-coat only	Meets spec	Not recommended for ext. arch.	Not recommended for ext. arch.	Meets spec	Depends on system
Abrasion Resistance	Excellent	Meets spec	Meets spec	Limited suitability	Meets spec	Very good	Varies
<b>APPLICATION &amp; COST</b>							
Application Method	Factory coil coated	Coil or spray	Coil or spray	Coil	Coil	Electrostatic spray	Field or shop spray
Relative Cost	Best lifecycle value. Reduced production and rework costs	Upfront savings offset by touch-up after forming	Upfront savings offset by touch-up after forming	Low upfront; touch-up required after forming	Moderate; touch-up required after forming	Higher — manual process; inconsistent finish adds rework risk	Highest — labor-intensive; rework risk from inconsistent application
Best Use	High-end curtain wall, ACM, plate	Commercial-grade facade	High-gloss coatings	Light commercial interior	Mid-tier commercial	Railings, storefronts	Retrofit, small runs

Warranty terms vary by product line and application. Consult your Fairview representative for project-specific details.

## Ready to See Vitranar® in Action?

Request a Sample Kit | Download Technical Data | Schedule a Consultation

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