NON-LINE OF SIGHT (NLOS) CHROME REPLACEMENT

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Chromium electrodeposits have long been the main wear resistant coating utilized in the aircraft industry for landing gear, flight controls, utility actuators, engine and propellor hubs. Recent efforts (witness the U.S. DoD Hard Chrome Alternative Team) have made significant and successful efforts to replace chrome on DoD equipment for line of sight applications. A similar trend has been ongoing in the commercial aircraft world (i.e., Airbus A380, Boeing 787 and the Bombardier C Series) where new products are contractually requiring chrome plating elimination. Unfortunately, the technology readiness for replacing non-line of sight (NLOS) applications has not achieved the same technology readiness level achieved with the line of sight technology. This presentation is intended to outline some technologies being investigated by Messier-Dowty landing gear applications to address the technology readiness challenge.