THE CHALLENGE: The sea lion enclosure at the Houston Zoo was ready for redecorating to upgrade the attraction. Although the applications were to be made “in the dry” it was understood that the concrete surfaces were liable to be moist after years of sea-water service. Houston summer weather which can generate thunderstorms in an instant was also a factor to be considered. A smooth, tough coating to provide years of service which was compatible with the application requirements was required.

RESULT: A fortunate break in the weather allowed most of the wall area and all of the floor area to be sprayed using 1/1 ratio heated, plural component airless equipment. The BIO-DUR 560 was very smooth and cured quickly to a hard and tough, Kevlar® reinforced liner. In addition the “beach” area was coated with BIO-GARD 257 to form a smooth, tough and UV resistant surface.

CONCLUSION: The color chosen by the zoo personnel creates an almost luminous effect in bright sunlight. Expansion joints and some minor cracks which were also treated during the liner application using special flexible membrane have been positively sealed and have effectively vanished from view after coating with the BIO-DUR 560 lining. Both the zoo personnel and sea Lion inhabitants are pleased with the restored pool. For more information regarding this project, contact:

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THE SOLUTION: The coating contractor, Modern Maintenance of Spring, TX, met with zoo officials and TFT in a pre-award meeting to discuss requirements for timing, color etc. Because of the tight scheduling requirements and the need for a smooth coating it was necessary to apply the coating by spray. In order to satisfy environmental requirements the TFT solvent-free coating BIO-DUR 560 was chosen. This material was custom tinted to the specified color and especially engineered to have excellent UV resistance. Severe thunderstorms threatened serious delays during the last and most critical days of the project. Because of the extreme water tolerance of BIO-DUR 560 however the crew working in the rain was able to apply the entire waterline area using rollers.