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INCORPORATING THE PAINTING & DECORATING JOURNAL

**The National
Painting & Decorating Show
Nov 27th - Nov 28th 2018**

Email: _____

BCF launches PaintSafe initiative at the 2017 National Painting and Decorating Show

The British Coatings Federation has launched a new initiative 'PaintSafe' which aims to promote the safe use of paint and related products and provide best practice for decorators and other applicators during preparation, application and drying. Working in collaboration with the major paint manufacturers in the UK, the first phase of the campaign focuses on decorative paints, and was launched 28 and 29 November at the 2017 National Painting and Decorating Show. A second phase to promote safe use of industrial paints will be launched late in 2018.

Unveiled as part of the campaign includes a tri-fold leaflet, which outlines do and do not points to follow whilst painting, and specific guidelines with regards to lead exposure and preparation. The leaflet is available for download at www.paintsafe.org.uk and will be available via trade outlets across the UK in the first quarter of 2018.

New Crown Paints' loyalty scheme

The Crown Paints' Loyalty Scheme is available from any merchant offering the IDS service, as well as the network of Crown Decorating Centres across the UK.

One point is added for each pound spent and the process is quick and easy, with the points all logged and automatically added to your figures.

Jon Konsbruck, National Sales Manager at Crown Paints, said: "This is a really exciting way for us to reward customers and let them select their own personal choice of gifts and experiences in the process.

"We've designed it to be really easy to operate. It's just a case of signing up and watching the points build-up.

"There's a great choice available to spend the points on and, if you build them up over the year, presents for Christmas 2018 could even be taken care of!"

As well as going online for further details, decorators can contact their local rep or find out more from Crown Trade Customer Relations team, telephone 0330 0240297 alternatively email info@crowntrade.co.uk

WWD



selection of paints

Bagnalls apprentice wins junior national title

Adam Knowles from Bagnalls North West Branch is the Junior Apprentice Paperhanger of the Year, it was announced at a dinner, organised by the Painting and Decorating Association.

Eighteen year old Adam received a £200 cash prize, a certificate and a trophy at the event, which formed part of the PDA's National Conference.

Adam, who is also studying towards an NVQ Level 2 in Painting and Decorating at St Helens College, said: "This is the first time I've



entered the competition and it's a brilliant feeling to have won, especially as my girlfriend was there when they announced the winners.

"Bagnalls are really proud of my success

too and I'm planning to take part in the senior level contest next year."

Market still flat

The market for paint, wallcoverings and woodcare products was worth an estimated £925m in 2017 according to AMA Research. An upturn in the construction sector in 2014 stimulated demand for paint and wallcoverings and the market continued to grow to 2015.

However, the market has been relatively flat since 2016.

The paint and effects sector has grown by an estimated 8% from its low point in 2009, although has been relatively flat in recent years. Within this sector there has been a continued shift towards more water based paints, with acrylic eggshell, for example, representing a growth area. There has also been an increase in demand for value added products such as durable, stain resistant and easy-to-clean products, as well as more specialist paints, including light reflecting, textured finishes, anti-bacterial, low odour, fast drying, anti-slip floor paint and insulating paint. In the wallcoverings sector, consumers appear to be increasingly confident in using bold designs. Larger designs with increased use of texture and digital prints are also popular - digital printing has enabled some revolutionary changes, with the availability of unlimited colour palettes and no restrictions on pattern size. The woodcare product sector has experienced growth, benefiting from a range of factors including the impact of climate conditions & the weather, growth in key sectors such as fences, sheds, furniture & conservatories, increasing popularity of garden paint and the growing housing sector.

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Reputation before revenue

New research led by Dulux Trade brings insights as to what matters to professional decorators

- 37% of painters and decorators feel that doing a good job is more important than maximising profits or getting a job done quickly.
- Nearly 50% of painters feel using high quality paint is vital for ensuring the optimum finish.
- Almost 80% of painters think professional training is essential to maintain their reputation.

A new survey of painters and decorators has revealed the lengths professionals are willing to go to maintain their reputation and provide a superior service for their customers. More than a third (37%) put doing a good job significantly above maximising profits and completing work quickly (7% and 8% respectively), while 52 percent have worked out of hours to finish an urgent job.

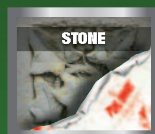
Surveying 500 decorators from across the UK, Dulux Trade carried out the research to mark the launch of its newly formulated Dulux Trade Vinyl Matt. It looked at a variety of issues affecting decorators in the current market, including Brexit, training, time management and reputation with a view to understanding the broader context of what's important to customers and the challenges facing their businesses.

The results confirmed that economic uncertainty is a significant concern, with 63 percent of decorators saying they had concerns about the consequences of Brexit, and a third of those (36%) worried about its impact on the economy as a whole. Of the remaining decorators who weren't worried about Brexit, 40 percent believe there will always be a demand for painting and decorating, confirming their continued confidence in the industry.

Keeping ahead as a professional is a clear priority to today's decorator, with training being of great importance to those surveyed. 78 percent of respondents said having professional training under their belt and ensuring that their customers were aware of their credentials was high priority. Three in ten (30%) said they had invested in training for their employees in order to boost their company's reputation.

Being equipped with the right products and tools was of considerable importance, with the end result for the client being of upmost importance to the decorator, and almost half saying that using high quality paint was vital for ensuring the optimum finish. 30 percent had convinced clients to trade-up to achieve a better result and further enhance their reputation, highlighting the decorator's influence over their clients' decision making process. A quarter said they would benefit from reduced flashing and cutting-in issues.

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DDC adds to website

Dulux Decorator Centre has introduced a range of new features and functionality to its website to offer account customers greater control over their billing preferences, enabling them to access account history, pay and download invoices online, sign up for paperless billing, download agreed price lists and call off from existing pallet arrangements at any time. Online customers also benefit from a wider range of products to choose from, which can be added to a 'favourites' list to save time on repeat orders.

Dulux Decorator Centre has also launched a new Visualizer app for Android and iOS to support businesses helping customers to choose the right colours for their decorating project. Using augmented technology, the Visualizer app enables users to test any colour in any room, ensuring that customers can be colour confident before ordering tester pots online.

Dulux Decorator Centre account holders can also enjoy free delivery and nectar points on all purchases; with a Click & Collect service available for customers to order online and pick up their goods from one of over 190 Dulux Decorator Centres across the UK.

Damp- and waterproofing guide

Safeguard has updated its product guide with a new, fourth edition that provides information on specifying its market-leading ranges of damp- and waterproofing technologies. The 54-page guide covers the Dryzone, Stormdry, Vandex, Oldroyd and Brickfix brands, to name a few. Product areas include: rising damp, replastering, damp-proof coatings, condensation and mould, rain penetration, masonry repair, basement drainage, and tanking and waterproofing in general.

New to the collections are Drybase and Roxil. The Drybase range is designed for use when it is not possible to protect building materials and interior surfaces from the sources of dampness, like rain penetration or rising damp. There are three main constituent products to the range – Drybase Liquid-Applied DPM; Drybase ECS Epoxy Floor Coatings and Drybase Flex Membrane.





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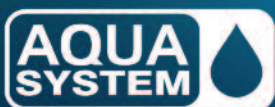
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Chocolate factory renovation

The former Terry's Chocolate factory in York has been transformed into the spectacular Chocolate Works Care Village with the help of Johnstone's Trade's high performance products.

The landmark building is Grade II listed and, after a number of years lying unused and unloved, was brought back to life through the extraordinary vision of Springfield Healthcare CEO Graeme Lee and his extensive team of architects (Norr), builders (Simpsons of York) and restoration specialists. The building now provides 82 individually designed care suites and eight outstanding apartments that staff and visitors can utilise and enjoy.

Ensuring the interior design equalled the grandeur of the building was essential, as was creating a durable finish that wouldn't fade over time and could withstand wear and tear from the high footfall in the Care Village. Johnstone's Trade worked closely with decorating firm HEC Ltd. to provide a range of high performance coatings products that met the high-quality specification on the project.

Johnstone's Trade's Covaplus Vinyl Matt and Acrylic Durable Matt were used on the walls and ceilings of the interior building to provide a durable finish, making it ideal for high traffic areas such as kitchens, bathrooms, hotels, hospitals and public buildings. In addition,



Johnstone's Aqua Water Based Undercoat and Gloss were used for the trim and window frames to provide a high sheen finish and traditional gloss look that will stay whiter for longer, reducing the need for future maintenance.

Springfield Healthcare's programme aims to set a new benchmark for how care environments are designed and built, with the Chocolate Works Care Village being awarded Refurbishment Project of the Year in the 2017 Healthcare Estates Awards with the help of Johnstone's Trade.



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A close-up photograph of a male worker in profile, facing right. He is wearing clear safety glasses with 'MIRKA' written on the side, a white respirator mask covering his nose and mouth, and blue nitrile gloves. He is holding a yellow and black Mirka DEOS electric sander against a light-colored wall. The sander has a black handle and a yellow body. A black power cord is visible. The background is a plain, light blue wall. The bottom half of the image has a yellow background with a subtle pattern of overlapping circles.**MIRKA**

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Quality from start to finish

Porto Marble

Cait is decorative painter working throughout UK and teaching from her studio in Perth, Scotland. You can see her work and connect with her on social media; Twitter and Instagram - @paintycait or Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/carteblanchedecorativepainters/>

Porto is fantastically fashionable this year but over and above that, a very beautiful marble to carry out. It is chiefly mined in Italy although it can be found in France, Corsica and Algeria. I find it most useful for fireplaces and table-tops, skirting boards and other trim, along with tops and bases of pillars.

The ground I used was Benjamin Moore Regal Select Pearl Finish in PM-9 Black. I carried out this marble in mainly Matt Medium, thinned 1:1 with water. Matt Medium allows you to build lots of layers quickly. Drying in about 20 minutes, it is very commercial especially for small projects.

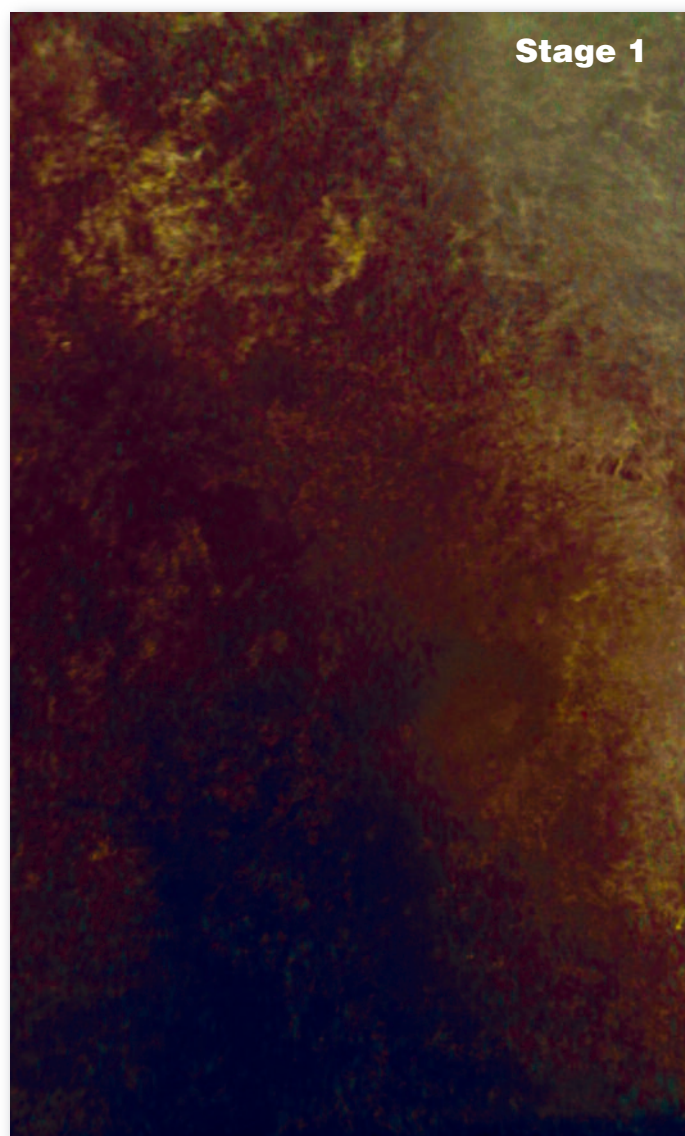
The key palette I use is Titanium White, Yellow Ochre and Burnt Sienna, secondary colours are Burnt Umber, Paynes Grey and Van Dyke Brown

Stage 1 I don't always apply a background texture unless the budget allows and it's not truly necessary, but I do find that it gives a suggestion of background veins and a light potential structure to work around. Porto has soft bubbles of white in the background that come and go, and this initial stage helps to build these as well.

A thin wash made up from a palette of

Titanium White, Yellow Ochre and Burnt Sienna is broken up with a damp natural sponge, as this starts to dry, break it again with alcohol – methylated spirits is fine, rag and soften with a badger. This will be dry in about 20 minutes.

Stage 2 If you need a little “slip”, wipe a thin coat of acrylic scumble over the surface, this may slow the drying though. The veins are applied by triple loading the brush, the matt medium mix is mixed with white and then one side drawn through the Yellow Ochre, and the other side through the Burnt Sienna. The veining is achieved with a dipping, lifting and rolling motion. Try not to paint like an artist, allow the brush to do the work for. Use the upper arm to move the hand up and down as opposed to the wrist. Work on one chain at a time and connect the fat parts of the chains into the pleasing varied loops that are so characteristic of Porto.



Parts can be lifted away using a wipe out tool or a piece of an eraser. To create the soft translucency seen in some veins, blot them with a clean piece of cloth. Leave the veins to almost set completely before softening otherwise they will smudge.

Stage 3 Continue to build your chains and connect them with a fine network of mainly off white veins. Use

the background texture as an aid to build these.

Stage 4 I use a synthetic spalter for this stage but you could use a veinette or overgrainer. Mix a little Paynes Grey and Raw Umber with the Matt Medium, separate the bristles with a brush comb. Draw across the veins to give them depth and texture, this should be thin and soft, wipe away excess from the sides of the veins. Leave to dry. Do the same again with Burnt Sienna adding a little Burnt Umber or Yellow Ochre as you go. Once dry apply a wash of Vandyke Brown. There are pretty, soft white blobs in the background of this marble that generally fall in the spaces between main veins. These can be painted in at this stage – thin white and matt medium blotted and then softened. A few sharp white veins and some fissure will give dimension. Complete the work with a semi gloss varnish.

Stage 2



Stage 3



Stage 4



Now firmly part of the professional decorator's calendar, the 2017 Show's demonstrations, new products and new exhibitors were up on the previous year – as was the attendance.



The National Painting & Decorating Show 2017

**BIGGER
AND
BETTER
AGAIN!**

We conducted a number of interviews with decorators at the 2107 National Painting & Decorating Show to find out what they were getting out of it, whether it was worth coming and indeed, whether they would come to the next year's show.

All the answers were positive and covered much the same ground: it is the best opportunity to see what's new and have these new products explained and

demonstrated; stock up on highly discounted products, especially application tools; and the freebies. Nothing wrong with a freebie, is there? And, yes they would come back. One we asked had been to each of the last 20 shows.

What also emerged is that the Show is seen as a fun day out, mostly due to the investment and imagination of the exhibitors. A lot of exhibitions are sterile affairs, with salesmen out to get you. Not this one. This year you could challenge top darts players, play fairground type games with winners picking up good prizes, take a swing at a punch ball and even have your picture taken with the Dulux dog. You are not going to come along just to do these things, but they do heighten your experience and lighten your mood.

Beyond this, the decorators were looking for ideas, problem solvers and profit makers. The bigger paint manufacturers were demonstrating new or newish products with time-saving benefits such as increased coverage or improved drying times and their object was to get decorators to try the product on the stand, to get a feel for its application characteristics. Decorators can be



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wary about using untried coatings on a contract, and this is one of very few opportunities to try without buying. The niche manufacturers and coatings importers were also there in force, offering coatings solutions to the increasing number of substrates that the trade is asked to protect or decorate.

Brushes, rollers and spray equipment were the biggest section after coatings and the variety on offer and the number of stands offering them seems to increase year on year. But these are the tools of your trade and the more there is to choose from, surely the better it is, especially if you're looking to balance price and usage as the larger contractors have to. Spray is now more significant to the trade and a couple of visitors we interviewed said that the primary reason for their attendance was to make an assessment of all the spray kit on offer to see which would suit the type of business they were doing. The Show is the only place where nearly all manufacturers and importers of suitable products are under one roof at the same time with the technical and commercial expertise to answer questions.

And we understand there were good deals to be had if you were prepared to buy on the day.

And then there are the decorative products which can provide ideas for clients looking for something different. One that caught our eye was EcoCottonWall, which is basically what it is: a wallcovering that insulates and preserves thermal balance, can be used to mask cracks and flaws, absorbs sound and comes in 100 colours. There were a number of these stands which can be grouped together as provoking thought for decorators in high end commercial or domestic work.

There are always a few American companies selling products that we have no equivalents of, until they find their way into the merchant chains. One was a clever sealant gun which stops run-on from the appropriately names Dripless inc. Obviously a problem that the trade is well aware of as he sold most of the product he'd brought on the first day. It's coming by the pallet load next year.

The 2018 Show is once again at the Ricoh Arena on the 27th and 28th November.

WHAT EXHIBITORS SAID ABOUT THE 2017 EVENT

Once again the best show of the year, connecting us with the lifeblood of the trade – the men and women decorators who visit from the length and breadth of the country.

Andrew Stewart, Chemfix Products Ltd

2017 was our first year of exhibiting independently. The team spoke to a couple of thousand painters and decorators The event was such a success that we have booked to exhibit again in 2018.

Laura Sackett, Farrow & Ball

Year-on-year the show just keeps getting bigger and better, more exhibitors, more products, and more visitors. This is the ONLY UK show to bring some of the world's largest manufacturers of coatings, and spraying machines together, and lets visitors try the technology.

Patricia Vranken, Graco

At times the aisles were blocked and we didn't get a break for hours talking to painters. We will definitely be exhibiting at the 2018 show.

Peter Blake, Gray Campling Ltd

It's a standout favorite in every way we can think of: attendance, quality and quantity of information and products, organization, marketing and administration of the show. Looking forward to the 2018 show and beyond.

Garth Getchell, McCauley Tools, USA

Best year yet with a fantastic atmosphere.

Andy Cherry, MyPaintbrush

The experience we have had at the P+D show for the last couple of years has been great... and every year we attend we have a better experience.

David Kendall, Rupes

.... a great show with a high volume of visitors both days, which gives us an excellent opportunity to showcase new products to the professional decorator.

Jennifer Woolmore, Mirka UK Ltd

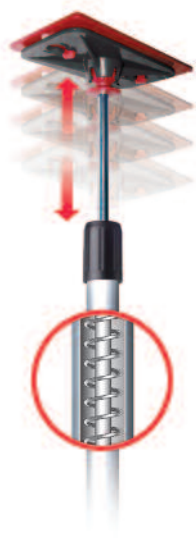
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at The National Painting & Decorating Show

Thousands of professional painters and decorators took to the Ricoh Arena for the National Painting and Decorating Show in November 2017. Here, Richard Mazurkiewicz, Marketing Manager at Johnstone's Trade, explains the activities that took place on the PPG stand.

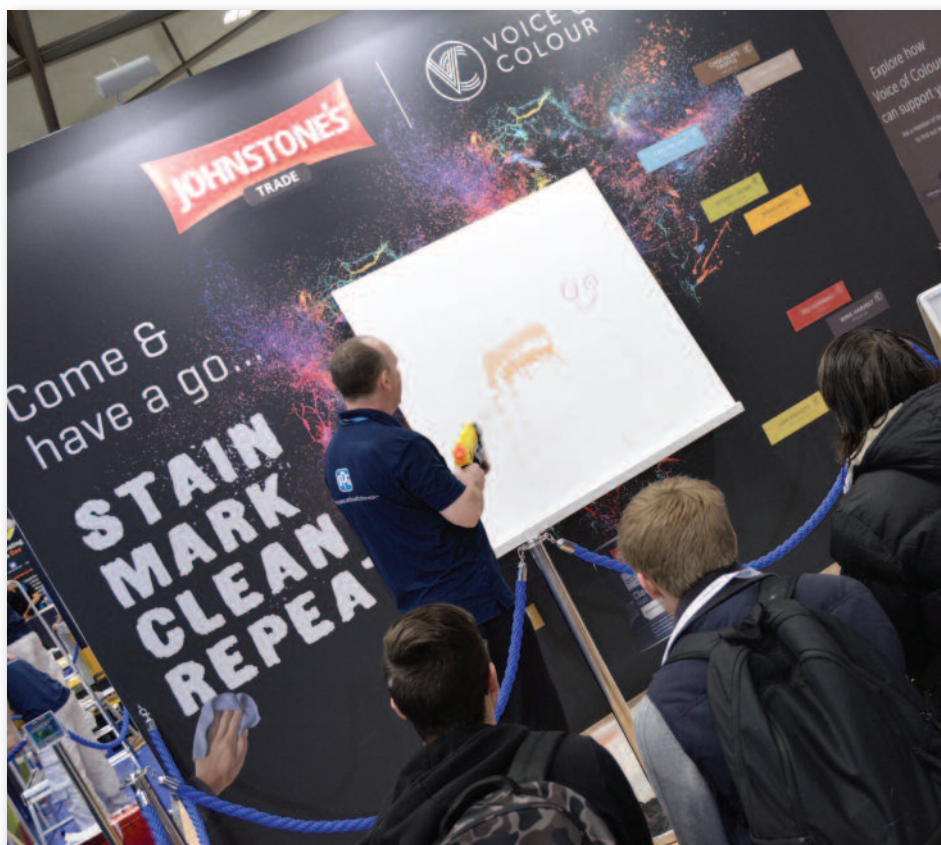
The National Painting and Decorating Show is one of the biggest events of the year, with painters and decorators coming from across the country to get to grips with the latest products from suppliers and manufacturers alike.

For us, the show is a great way of talking to our customers, hearing their thoughts and gathering feedback on the products they've been using. We see that building relationships with professionals across the industry is vitally important, and the show helps to facilitate the conversations we need to have.

This year, we had a range of activities on the stand, including a pop-up Johnstone's Decorating Centre, where products were available to purchase at discounted prices. Visitors had the chance to win a Makita Site Radio and Johnstone's Trade T-shirts, as well as take on Leyland Trade sponsored pro darts players. But that's not all...

Live product demonstrations

In the testing area of the stand, attendees were given the chance to trial some of our latest product innovations. Among these was the Johnstone's Trade Aqua System, including Water Based Gloss, Water Based Satin and Water-Based Undercoat – a range of hybrid products that we created to mimic the application of solvent-based products with the added characteristics and environmental



benefits of water-based technology.

Visitors were invited to try the technology, while the team was on hand to answer any questions and to gather feedback. Attendees were also given the chance to spray the Johnstone's Trade Aqua products using the latest technology from Graco and Aristospray.

We also showcased Johnstone's Trade Cleanable Matt technology at the event. A team from Johnstone's Trade were on hand

to provide insight into the technology behind the product, offering application advice and carrying out live demonstrations of it in action.

Cleanable Matt was also the focus of our two masterclasses. In each, a board painted with the product was covered in tomato ketchup, yellow mustard, fruit juice and lipstick before our experts demonstrated how easy it is to clean the stains off the board using only

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soapy water and standard household cleaner. A video of the masterclass is available to view on Johnstone's Trade Facebook page.

Voice of Colour

During the show, we revealed the new colour palette, Voice of Colour, which is exclusively available to Johnstone's Trade products. The Voice of Colour collection brings the latest colour trends to our paint coatings, and will allow painters and decorators to offer the very best colours and themes to their customers. As well as learning about the range, professionals could experience an interactive virtual reality experience, where they were able to create and keep their own 3D image.

Young Painter of the Year

The show also hosted the final of the 13th annual Johnstone's Trade Young Painter of the Year competition. Eight talented young painters and decorators were invited to take part in the final after winning their respective regional heat, and were required to prove their skill in front of judges and the show's attendees by completing a range of tasks set by the Johnstone's Trade technical team.

Across the two days, the finalists were asked to complete a complex pattern that incorporated geometric shapes as well as applying transfers, using colours from the new Voice of Colour range.

Lisa Murphy, a student at the Queenslie Training Centre, scooped the Young Painter of the Year title after impressing judges with her skill and technical ability. Kyle Cooper, a Forth Valley student, took second place while



Thomas Nowell from Penwith College scooped the third prize.

We've always believed that it's vital to engage the next generation of professional painters and decorators. We see the competition as being a great way for them to showcase their skill and ability, and taking part also gives them an opportunity to win a prize bundle that will really help to further them in their career. As well as winning technical gadgets, a goody bag of sundries and much more, Lisa, Kyle and Thomas won an all-expenses paid training trip to Toupret in France.

Leyland Trade

Leyland Trade showcased its Truguard Waterproofing range – exterior paint that has been specifically designed to help address various waterproofing issues around the house, such as damp stains and leaks.

Attendees were given the chance to win a Waterproofing product in the 'Beat the Pro' game – they were challenged to a game of darts against world-leading darts professionals, Michael van Gerwen and Simon (The Wizard) Whitlock.

We also had experts providing information about the PPG protective coatings range on the stand, including a new heavy duty resin flooring portfolio and anti-corrosive products for structural steelwork.

The event was a huge success – it was a great opportunity for teams from across the PPG portfolio to talk to customers, and likewise for our customers to spend time with the technical team.

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Sanding:

from hand to power

Decorator Dan Ennis how and why he uses Mirka tools.

I turned “pro” at 18 but before this I worked with my father, who is also a decorator. The jobs I did with him were at the weekends and over school holidays but I believe they provided me with the perfect training environment for the tools I would use and the jobs I would end up doing. When I started it was all hand sanding with some folded over paper and I have some particularly bad memories of spending days sanding large walls down and feeling like I was getting nowhere. However, when the hand sanding got too much, we purchased some sanders but there were a couple of key issues with the ones we used. The first was they were bulky and the second was they could not handle and extract the fine dust that was produced. When you are researching potential new tools, you hear about them through several channels including online forum posts and recommendations from peers. For me, it was forum posts that put me in the loop about the innovations Mirka was bringing to the market and I have been a regular user of its tools for the last six years. I started using Mirka sandpaper and then purchased the Mirka Hand Sanding Kit incorporating the Handy. I then decided to add the CEROS electric power tool and from there I graduated to a DEROS. As a result, to be honest, I have not looked back. These tools I invested in make my life easier as they provide me with the versatility to perform multiple jobs, while allowing me to reach into awkward places that other sanders cannot reach.

When it comes to addressing the issues of the past, the preparation and dust produced used to be two of the worst parts of the job



in terms of the time spent getting everything ready and the fact that I went home covered in dust. However, those days are now a thing of the past thanks to a few innovations that have come onto the market over the years I have been in the industry. The first is Mirka’s innovative sander designs



that started with CEROS and then the DEROS, which provides a low-profile set-up for more control over the sanding process due to being closer to the surface. The second is the reduction in weight, which reduces arm fatigue and potential injuries to arms. The third is the dust extraction, which removes the dust as soon as it is produced. This means it not only protects myself but also my client from the potential health risks associated with dust particles, and also ensures that the dust does not reach other areas of the home, while also minimising the amount of tidying up required at the end of each day.

The evolution has now led to the point where we are working with tools that barely weigh anything but still have the power to handle the toughest work environments. As a result, I recently purchased the new DEOS sander. The reason for the purchase is in part to do with my own evolution of tooling and because as a sander, it eliminates issues such as height, poor dust control, vibration and low power, that have plagued square sanders in the past, so I do not have to worry about the tool when it is in use.

Finally, since I started in the industry the way I work has evolved to the point where the same finish cannot be achieved by hand sanding compared to using a sander, no matter how many hours you put into it. I can honestly say evolving my tools has been the best investment I have ever made and I would recommend anyone starting out or currently in the industry to do the same because you will not only notice the difference in the end result very quickly but it will also allow you to expand the types of jobs you can offer your clients.



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Taking steps *towards safety*

Painters and decorators normally work at height, so choosing the right ladder is crucial in maximising safety, comfort and long-term value. Here, Jamie Brassington, product manager at WernerCo, discusses the key considerations that should be taken into account when purchasing a ladder, and how selecting a fibreglass option meets these criteria with ease.

It goes without saying that painting and decorating can be a messy job. However, your equipment shouldn't add to this and certain materials fair better in this area than others. Unlike aluminium, fibreglass – also known as glass-reinforced plastic (GRP) – is clean to the touch, meaning ladders made of this don't leave marks compared to their aluminium counterparts. This helps to reduce residue on your hands and clothing, keeping the whole operation much cleaner and keeping maintenance to a minimum.

Aesthetics aside, you need to consider the practicality of a ladder in terms of durability, strength and ease of use. Painting and decorating is a year-round profession, and this poses certain challenges when it comes to mitigating changing weather conditions. A fibreglass ladder maintains temperature





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neutrality regardless of the weather, meaning it doesn't become too cold in winter, or too hot in summer. The durable seven-layer fibreglass constructed rails are highly resistant to weathering, as they do not absorb moisture or weaken in the sun. This means the ladder can easily withstand outdoor jobs such as painting the exterior of a house, always maintaining its smooth surface. Not only that, fibreglass is inherently strong and robust, offering high resistance to denting and twisting. This helps to increase long-term savings, delivering competitive whole-life costs above and beyond that of other materials.

WernerCo, is the parent company of brands Youngman and Werner, both of which supply fibreglass stepladder options. Among the offerings from Werner are the 716 series fibreglass stepladders, featuring slip-resistant steps for comfortable standing and EDGE bracing to help prevent rail damage. The ladders come with a range of 'Lock-in' accessories, including job buckets, utility buckets, job caddies, utility hooks and tool lassos, making them ideal for keeping tools together whilst working around a property. All of these options conveniently hook over the top of the ladder and can be easily interchangeable depending on the needs of the user. The ladders have a load capacity of up to 150kg.

The S400 fibreglass platform stepladders from Youngman feature a large platform for a secure and comfortable work area when attending to longer jobs. They include an integrated tool tray for holding tools whilst you work, as well as slip-resistant treads to

maximise safety at all times. The extra bracing at the foot of the ladders enhances support, and heavy-duty internal spreaders make them easy to set up and stow away. With a 150kg load capacity and generous 298mm tread pitch, the S400 stepladders from Youngman are ideal for professional use, allowing you to reach higher areas and carry substantial loads.

Of course, the primary concern when it comes to working at height is safety. Along with all of the aforementioned considerations, it is also crucial to take into account current safety legislation when it comes to selecting your next ladder, such as the recent updates to the EN131 ladder standards. Having come into force in January 2018, the new measures form part of an update to the European Standard for all non-specialised ladder products. After a one-year period of grace, the update recommends that any ladder manufactured for professional or non-professional use after January 2019 should be certified with an EN131 Professional

rating. Ladders that are certified to an earlier standard can still be used beyond this point, but the update – which is supported by both Trading Standards and the Health and Safety Executive – means any ladder manufactured for professional use after January 2019 should comply with the new requirements. A professionally rated ladder is manufactured and tested to more rigorous standards than those intended for occasional domestic use, maximising safety and standing the test of time.

To find out more information on the range fibreglass solutions from WernerCo visit www.wernerco.com



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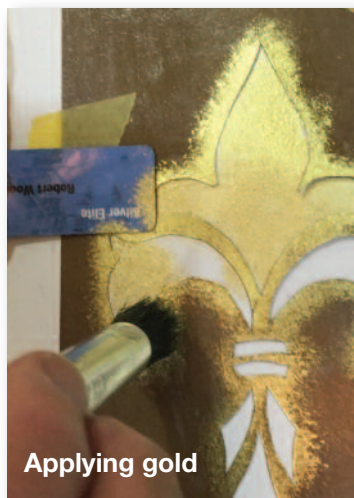
using your own designs

by Robert Woodland, LCGI, a member of London Association Master Decorators and the Painting and Decorating Association for over 40 years.

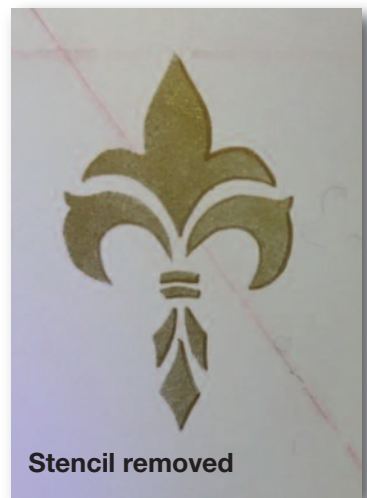
Stage One: Preparing and Setting Out



Setting out



Applying gold



Stencil removed

1 First you will need a surface prepared and painted in your background colour. This can be in Acrylic or oil based Satin Eggshell. Next you will need to set out where and how you are placing your chosen design depending on the size. I have chosen to set out a panel to place five Fleur de lys in the style of a playing card no. 5.

I have used a chalk line to ping an X from opposite corners which will help me to set out where the designs are to be placed. I have also pinged horizontal lines at the top, middle and bottom. The middle line passes through the centre where the cross meets. The top and bottom are placed 100mm down from the top and bottom to produce an evenly balanced design.

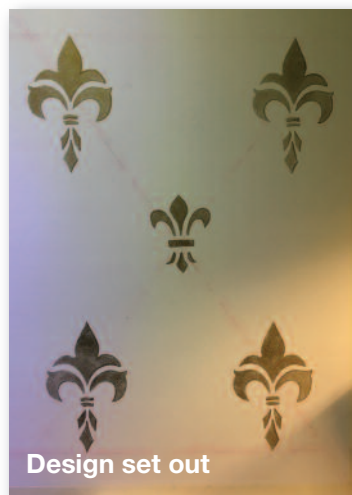
Stage Two: Materials

2 I have chosen to use a water based satin varnish, gold bronzing powder, silver powder, a small stencil brush, Lining paper 1000 grade, OHT transparent clear plastic sheet and knotting. You can search for a design that you want to use on the computer or draw a design or copy a design. Using a hobby knife cut out the design using the lining paper or OHT, if using lining paper apply the shellac knotting to both sides as this will protect the design from absorbing the paint later.



The varnish and gold powder mixed

Stage Three: Setting out the design



3 Place the design you have chosen onto the panel being careful to ensure that the design will not look to cluttered with nicely placed spaces around until you are happy. I use the chalk lines to help me place the designs evenly and this also gives me a reference point to work from.

Stage Four: Application of colour

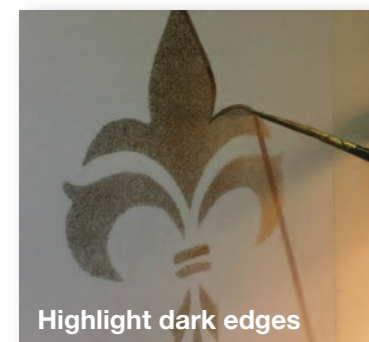
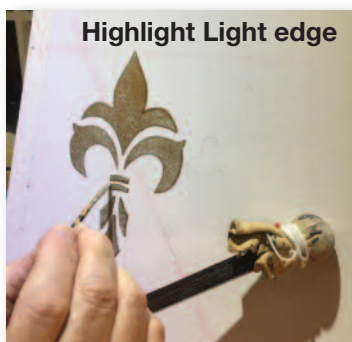
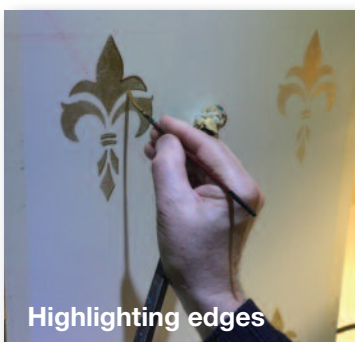
4 I am using the water varnish as my medium to which I add the gold powder, you can use your own medium or get a gold paint which will work just as well. I then use a small stencil brush which has just the tip dipped into the gold and using a tapping motion / stipple method, I gently apply the Gold into the design being careful not to force the paint under the design as this will lead to a blurred edge. The effect should be even in the design but not heavy more like the skin of an orange.

As soon as you are happy remove the stencil carefully and before using the stencil again check the underside and wipe away any paint that may have crept onto the back. As I was using a water based varnish this dried quite quickly which after the wipe/ check was more or less ready to go again.

Repeat the process for each stencil until the overall design has been achieved. Now very important have a cup of tea and allow the stencils to dry. The next stage will require a steady hand.



Stage Five: Finishing / Edging



5 We are now going to shade the edges to give the designs a little body with a very small sign writers / artist brush. Using the gold mix you have left over from the design, you will need to add a little black just to darken the gold very slightly.

Next, imagine a light is top left of the board meaning all the edges of the design that are low right are to be painted with the darker gold around the edges. Now using the silver paint or powder / varnish mix repeat the same to the edges which are top left of the designs. This creates the illusion of a 3D effect.

FARROW & BALL

CRAFTSMEN IN PAINT AND PAPER

SPOTLIGHT ON: MODERN EGGSHELL

Combining traditional methods with pioneering technology, Farrow & Ball develop high-performance paint for the professional painter and decorator. Seeing a need for a hardwearing eggshell, the British craftsmen recently formulated Modern Eggshell.



DISCOVER MODERN EGGSHELL

Modern Eggshell is an extremely durable mid sheen finish, especially suited to staircases, floors, kitchen cabinets and interior metal.

- 40% sheen level
- Washable and wipeable
- Touch dry in 2 hours, recoat in 4 hours
- Easy to clean up, simply rinse brushes or rollers in warm soapy water
- Low in odour

“Eggshell is traditionally used on some of the busiest areas in a property”, explains Wayne Armstrong, Lead Decorator at Farrow & Ball. “Whether it’s skirting boards getting knocked by hoovers or banisters being scraped by bags, these surfaces need protecting with a finish that will last.”

Farrow & Ball delivers this exceptional durability by adding quality ingredients in precisely the right amount, following its closely guarded formulas. Each batch is then thoroughly tested to give your client their specified colour and a lasting finish.

WHAT’S IN A TIN?

- **Titanium dioxide:** High levels give Farrow & Ball paint exceptional durability and hiding power in just two coats, ensuring a long-lasting finish.
- **Resins:** Quality resins act as the backbone to Farrow & Ball paint. These are fundamental to the strength, performance and longevity of its finishes.
- **Water:** A water base means Modern Eggshell is fast drying, easy to apply and low in odour. It’s touch dry in two hours and ready for a second coat in four hours.
- **Rich pigments:** A blend of up to five pigments gives your clients an exceptional depth of colour.

“Using the best quality materials makes the job easier to carry out”, says Armstrong. “With Modern Eggshell’s short dry time, you can get jobs finished quicker, which protects your profit when working on a price.”

Get inside information on products, resources and events by signing up for the monthly Farrow & Ball trade newsletter
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Three in 'One Can'

Bradite has launched 'One Can' – a primer, stain blocker and anti-corrosive coating.



The globalisation of paint companies has not affected where the coatings are manufactured that much – the UK brands that are now part of multinationals are still generally manufactured where they always have been, and there have been cases of notable investment in these manufacturing plants.

But research and development hasn't quite followed the same pattern and relocations have led to some highly experienced paint chemists being freed up for smaller UK companies to take on.

Manchester-based Bradite had a clear idea for a product that would fulfil three functions from 'One Can' without compromise, if

applied correctly. To work, the product needed to be an anti corrosive coating, a stain blocker and an effective adhesive primer. It also needed to dry to a finish which can act as a top coat, be water-based and be effective on any surface from UPVC to metal. So Bradite took on a highly experienced paint chemist and gave him a clear year to develop the product. The result

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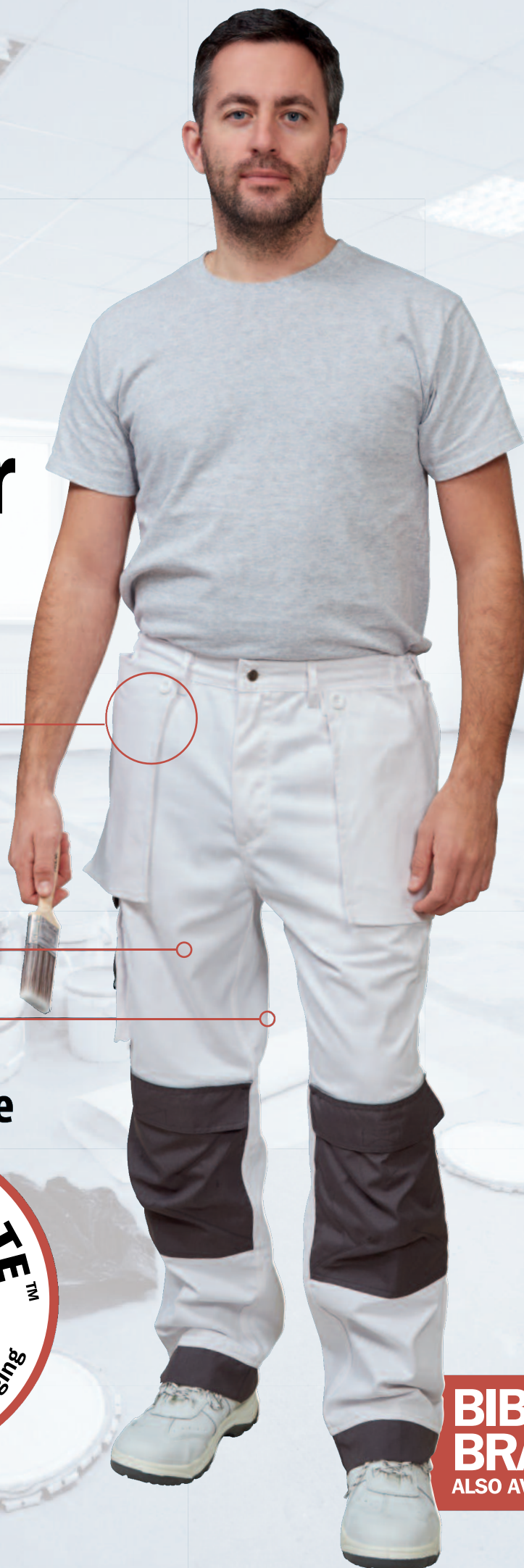
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is 'One Can', which will be on the merchant's shelves in April.

The product's versatility will be the key to its success, with the number of coats required (from one to three) dependent on the job that needs to be done. The point is that, you can do a lot with this product and, paying the normal care to the instructions, it will be one of the most useful coatings you can have in the van. Beyond broadwall and metal, it can be applied to both hardwoods and softwoods, binding in tanning, knots and resinous bleed.

In application, it has the characteristics of a good quality acrylic eggshell – little drag and should not be overbrushed. It can be brushed, rolled or sprayed and dries to an eggshell finish – although we understand a gloss finish is in the pipeline. Factory colours are black and white, but it can be tinted to



the full BS and RAL colour range using the 300 Bradite machines. The coating is touch dry after 1 hour and recoatable after 4. Coverage is approximately 13sqm/l. It can be overcoated with either a solvent or waterborne topcoat

As a new product, 'One Can' has had accelerated lab testing, it has come through 200 hours of salt spray testing and 2,000 cycles of scrub testing which indicates the level of durability claimed.

We asked Bradite to tell us how they think the trade is going to use this product and how it is going to be a bonus in the market. The answer lies in its universality and its ease of use. As a primer/sealer, there's only one product for all surfaces inside and out. So it will become the go-to product without the decorator having to think about suitability. The fact that it can be used in an anti-corrosive capacity is an extra and means you don't have to

have another product in your van for smaller jobs. So it's first of all, something you'll have so you will not have to take time off to go back to the merchant when you come across the unexpected. You can also see a use for 'One Can' when you need to be in and out of a contract quickly. It can cover any substrate, obliterate and block stains and dries quickly to a functional finish. At around £18 per litre, there is a cost implication, but cost can be secondary to speed.



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Understanding the needs of professional painters and decorators and having a clear commitment to the evolution of product performance is vital for a leading manufacturer. Here Paul Dougherty, AkzoNobel's Head of Product and Portfolio Marketing, explains how the new formulation of its high quality Vinyl Matt paint is now set to provide further benefits for appliers.



Dulux improves its vinyl matt

Dulux Trade Vinyl Matt is already a leading, high quality product and is known for its opacity and coverage. This led to it becoming a popular product among professional painters and decorators.

However, a leading manufacturer needs to keep enhancing and improving existing

products. That is why our parent company AkzoNobel has readdressed the features of Dulux Trade Vinyl Matt – in line with current market demands.

Research

Due to the increasing workload and time constraints of today's professional painter

and decorator, an integral requirement of the new Vinyl Matt formulation was to create a product that delivered an easy and efficient application, with an improved, smooth finish - without compromising on the opacity.

Having listened to authentic feedback from both contractors and decorators via a variety



of sources, including the Dulux Trade Advice Centre, it became clear that there was a growing demand within the industry. A demand for a paint that can achieve a professional, smooth finish, with the added benefit of not needing to be thinned unless, the substrate requires it.

Testing

Before finalising the new formulation, the paint's properties were put through an extensive testing process to establish that the desired improvement had been achieved. These initially took place in the laboratory, and then onsite at the Dulux Academy with professional domestic and commercial appliers before being taken onsite with a number of contractors who have extensive experience in the industry.

The scientific testing that took place in the laboratory established the technological advancements that were key to the new, improved in-can consistency, resulting in an improved finish. However, the applier feedback collected at different intervals was crucial to the overall development process.

Furthermore, having the paint tested in a real life scenario, by the target audience, provides the development team with essential, authentic feedback. No major improvement can be launched without gaining applier opinion to ensure the product does indeed meet the needs of the market.

Decorators now using the new Vinyl Matt formulation were quick to praise the product's improvements:

“ *This paint is quicker to use, you'd get more done with it and speed is essential in our job.* **”**

“ *It's almost like an obliterating paint... outstanding coverage.* **”**

“ *I think my clients would be impressed with the finish it leaves.* **”**

Results

The new Vinyl Matt formulation provides professionals with improved in-can

consistency for easy application and a high quality finish.* The formulation is a result of a significant investment by Dulux Trade, including two years of dedicated research and development work. Product development scientists used the latest technology to produce a paint that not only offers improved application properties and a high quality, uniform finish, but also a premium coverage rate of up to 17m²/l.

The slacker consistency of the improved Vinyl Matt formula ensures a smoother finish. There is no pulling or dragging when applying the paint, and users experience significantly reduced roller mottle. As well as improved brush and roller application, the new consistency also provides an enhanced finish when used with Airless and HVLP spray equipment.

AkzoNobel has invested both time and resource to understand applier needs and create a product that would best serve the requirements of today's professionals. After two years of research and development, Dulux Trade is confident that the new Vinyl Matt range delivers the level of excellence expected from the brand.

Suitable for all normal interior wall and ceiling surfaces, the formulation offers great colour retention, and as a low sheen matt, it is ideally suited to covering imperfections for a consistent finish.

Showcasing work wins painter customers and national title



Award-winning painter and decorator Neil Bailey has secured more work since winning Small Contractor Award at the PDA's Awards last year.



Neil Bailey, of Oxfordshire-based Neil Bailey Decorating, won the Small Contractor Award at the Painting and Decorating Association's Premier Trophy Awards last year.

Using Crown Trade products to transform a living room in a Grade 2 listed farm house. He impressed the judges with his top-quality approach.

Neil Bailey said: "I've been entering the Small Contractor category for seven years but never won the competition. I felt that Milton

delighted, after seven years of trying, to come out with a top award.

"On the back of this award I've been inundated with work and I hope to employ some more people."

Neil Bailey worked closely with the Crown Paints' Trade Team to come up with a bespoke solution that would allow the lime plaster in the living room to breathe.

Crown Trade Grip Extreme Fast Drying Primer was used first to seal and bond distemper

Farm was a special project and stood a good chance of winning.

"I was absolutely

residue on the bare walls and, because of its rapid drying time, it was recoatable in just one hour.

Specially formulated to allow surfaces to breathe, Crown Trade Covermatt Emulsion was chosen for the walls and ceilings.

A rag-rolled finish was required in the living room – working in pairs, Neil Bailey and his team, first layered Crown Trade Covermatt Emulsion on to the walls and rolled it off quickly to achieve the dramatic look.

Virtually odour-free and offering fast drying times, Crown Trade Acrylic Eggshell was applied to the woodwork in the room.

Richard Gregory, who bought Milton Farm nearly three years ago, said: "The products went on really well and we're very happy with the finish.

"The living room feels very authentic and fits in well with the character and listed status of the house."

There was also exterior decoration to the property, with work to the external railings using the Crown Trade Protective Coatings System.

Two coats of Crown Trade Protective Coatings High Build Rust Inhibiting Primer Undercoat were applied to the bare metal, with two coats of the Micaceous Iron Oxide applied after.

To finish, Crown Trade Protective Coatings High Performance Gloss for Metal was applied in a dark blue colour.

External work also included decoration of the front door and exterior windows, which were coated with Sandtex Trade Flexible Primer Undercoat, the ultimate base for long lasting eggshell and gloss finishes.

Now standing in a bold mustard colour, the front door was finished with Sandtex Trade Eggshell X-tra, whilst the windows were coated with Sandtex Trade Flexigloss X-tra in



white.

Lindsay Hall of Crown Paints said: "It's great to see such an extensive range of Crown Trade, Sadolin and Sandtex Trade products being used on this property.

"The farm house looks fantastic and Richard

can rest assured that it's protected for the long term.

"The fact that Neil Bailey has won the Small Contractor award with this project makes it even more rewarding.

"Crown Paints will be the main sponsor for the 30th Painting and Decorating Association's Premier Trophy Awards this year.

"It's really important that painters and decorators from across the country apply and showcase their work."

Richard added: "I was really pleased that Neil won the Small Contractor award, he thoroughly deserved it, his dedication to what he did here was amazing.

"All of his team were here working hard and adapting to the challenges they found, it was really inspiring.

"Whilst they were here they became part of the family and helped us achieve our aim."

A video of the Milton Farm project can be seen at <https://youtu.be/Gqo5605FuzI>

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Febond Blue Grit is a high performance, plasterers grip coat bonding agent specifically designed to provide an improved key to smooth surfaces.

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Cutting edge technology has produced the newest and sharpest blade within the OLFA range. The Speed Blade combines existing high-quality products with innovation, resulting in a specially crafted blade designed to reduce resistance for a smoother and safer cut. Based on the renowned Excel Black Ultra-Sharp blade, the new blade is further improved with an extra coating of fluorine. The addition of fluorine greatly reduces friction - less friction means less pressure exerted from the user, allowing the Speed Blade to glide through materials easily and safely.

For stockist information and the latest news, follow on Facebook, tweet @AxisDecor or call 020 8204 1422.

Brewers *brief*

Problem solving for all decorators

Whether you're studying painting and decorating at college, are an apprentice or have worked in the industry your whole career, there's always something new to learn and a new challenge to face in the world of decorating.

At Brewers we strive to help our customers get the right product for the job in hand, every time. A commitment demonstrated through the vast product range, over 150 locations and extensive product training for all staff. In addition, we also offer our customers a handy online problem solver to help when you can't get to a Brewers branch.

Covering all sorts of problematic substrates, from tiles and rusty surfaces to bricks and upvc, the Problem Solver's broad span has been based on the questions we receive from our busy customers!

Not only does the Problem Solver give solutions to tricky surfaces, but also tackles a range of complex problems including efflorescence, fire damaged areas and blistering whilst giving options for challenging stains such as graffiti and nicotine. Plus being independent, Brewers will always advise on the best product for the job from a whole range of manufacturers.

The Problem Solver is the ideal tool to help any decorator striving for the best finish, after all quality preparation is the key to a perfect finish!

You can find the Brewers Problem Solver at <https://www.brewers.co.uk/know-how/problem-solver>



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On test: heat guns

The electric heat gun has replaced the very hot and hazardous blow lamp and deemed by the health and safety people plus the fire brigade as being a lot, lot safer. The main safety aspect is that one would naturally switch it off when putting it down and it cools quickly. Useful obviously in stripping old paint and for the plumber for de-icing frozen pipes, also for softening plastic pipes for bending. However, although they resemble a hand held hair drier please don't use it as such as unhappiness, blisters and even baldness might result. Here are six easily available examples were put through their paces.

Makita HG5012

Guide Price	£44.24 (My Tool Shed)
Watts	1,600W
Air temperature (degrees)	350°C - 500°C
Air volume	High. : 500L / min. Low. : 300L / min.
Net weight	0.6 kg



Very basic heat-gun with a 2 step switch controlling temperature and air flow. Strips paint and varnish, thaws frozen metal pipes, loosens tile and putty. Non-slip handle for easy operation. Complete with three nozzles, fan shape, glass protector and a pipe de-icer plus a blown plastic case.

Clarke International 3400757

Guide Price	£17.39 (Machine Mart)
Watts	1500W
Air temperature (degrees)	300°C - 500°C
Air volume	High. : 450L / min. Low. : 280L / min.
Net weight	0.7 kg



Another basic heat gun consuming 1500 watt, able to strip paint and varnish as well as de-icing frozen pipes. Has just the one glass protecting nozzle. Use only for ten minutes at a time and then allow three minutes to cool down. The gun body is shaped to enable it to be positioned pointing upwards for hands free operation. Supplied in a cardboard box.

Clarke International CHG2000P

Guide Price	£20.39 (Machine Mart)
Watts	2000W
Air temperature (degrees)	350°C - 550°C
Air volume	High. : 500L / min. Low. : 300L / min.
Net weight	0.71 kg



A low cost, powerful, two kilo watt heat gun with two heat settings, 350°C and 550°C. Able to stand on its back so bending plastic pipes and be done by one person. Good for stripping paint and varnish as well as de-icing water pipes etc. Comes in a blown plastic case with 4 nozzles, reflector, concentrator, glass protector and a diffuser plus a shave hook and a handle for it.

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*Compared with previous Dulux Trade Vinyl Matt Formulation pre -June 2017. Dulux Trade Vinyl Matt Light & Space has not been upgraded. AkzoNobel, the AkzoNobel logo, the flourish logo, Dulux and Dulux Trade are trademarks of the AkzoNobel group. ©AkzoNobel 2018.



Draper HG2003

Guide Price	£54.58 (Amazon)
Watts	2000W
Air temperature (degrees)	50°C - 550°C
Air volume	280L / min.
Net weight	0.95kg

Although there are two 'on' positions on the on/off switch the air flow stays the same, the heat control is on the back of the main body of the gun and is a large easy used knob. The gun is supplied with a full compliment of paint scrapers and air direction nozzles, all this comes in a blown plastic case.



Screwfix Titan 73867

Guide Price	£21.99
Watts	2000W
Air temperature/Air volume	50°C-350 L / min 450°C-450L / min. 600°C-550L / min
Net weight	0.8kg

Very high value at low cost, the Titan has uniquely three temperature setting and three airflow rates. Gun comes in a blown plastic case with a scraper and four nozzles. Able to stand on its back so it can be used hands free to soften plastic pipes etc.

Screwfix Energer 59740

Guide Price	£11.99
Watts	2000W
Air temperature/Air volume	450°C - 300L / min 600°C - 500 L / min.
Net weight	0.72kg

Lowest cost in this line up, Able to stand on its back to allow hands free use to soften plastic items, pipe etc. Three position on/off switch, high heat, low heat and off. Comes in a cardboard box with four nozzles.



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- External dust extraction Ø 27 mm



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On test:



Renault Trafic Van

by David Stokes

Renault's Trafic at first sight impresses with its not overly aggressive 'face', black grill and slanty 'eyes'. There is some yellow piping around the grill and spot lamps at bumper level. Along the sides a yellow flash with the legend, 'Formula Edition'. Also there are side steps set on a chrome pipe for want of a better word. Obviously the press office has gone to town on the optional extras and the styling features.

All this apart a van is for carrying stuff, the tools of one's trade or cargo. Like most vans nowadays they are a joy to travel in and do verge on car like to drive. We took the Trafic on a 100 mile round trip on motorways and A and B roads. This being in January the heater excelled itself and soon we had to turn it down as we were starting to almost pant. The controls are all in the traditional place with the handbrake to the left of the driver's seat instead of some where its on the right. There are six gears in the easily to

operate gearbox all nicely spaced and all in the normal places.

Out on the road you soon find the van can lift up its skirts and be away quickly to the motorway legal maximum. Like most vans it doesn't like a strong side wind but keeping the speed down makes for a safe journey. A feature that would have been unheard of a few years ago is cruise control and a speed limiter. I like cruise control as it allows the driver to concentrate on other things other than worrying about maintaining a legal speed. The best of us can allow the speed to creep up when concentrating on other aspects of driving.

At the rear of the van I found a completely boarded out cargo space in good looking plywood. Lining is a good way of preventing 'dings' that show on the outside by to anything hitting the inside of the bodywork, this does terrible things to the trade in value. There are six Anchor rings at floor level, six more at 'waist' level and four at the rear



roof level but just at the front and the centre. On the bulkhead just behind the passenger seat is a small hatch hinged at the top which stays open magnetically. Under the seat inside the cab is another hatch and this allows a ladder or pipes etc that are longer than the rear cargo space, cant see this being welcomed by a passenger though.

Visibility is excellent with the double mirrors on both sides and wipers nicely sweep the windscreen when there's rain. Inside the cab all is comfort with a good few cubby holes, with a glove locker and a lid that covers a cubby hole on top on the dashboard on the passenger side. In the middle an open space able to contain a laptop and where you find a USB point to keep your phone/tablet

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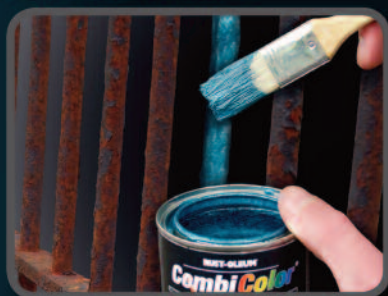
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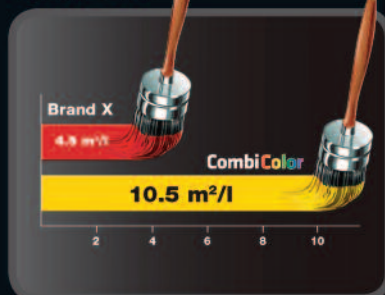
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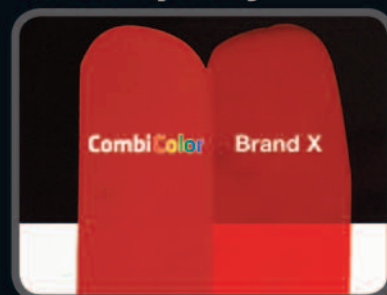
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battery charged. There is also a 12 volt socket on the dash without as is usual nowadays a cigarette lighter.

The driver's seat is very comfortable but the passenger seats my passenger found were a touch short in the squab. There is an option to have a single 'full size' seat for those who just want one passenger and go long distance but you have to forego the option of the under seat hatch for long items. You also get two cup holders, very important!

All in all an excellent medium sized van, a delight to drive.

Specification:

Engine Type	4 Cylinder Diesel Euro 5,16 Valve
Capacity	1,598cc
BHP	125 @ 3,500rpm
Torque	300Nm @ 1,500rpm
Gearbox Transmission	6 Speed Manual

Performance

Brakes Discs	front drums rear + ABS
Steering	Power assisted
Turning Circle	11,84 (between kerbs)
Turns lock to lock	3.2



Dimensions:

Overall Length	4,999mm
Overall Width	2,283mm (Including Mirrors)
Height	1,971mm
Wheelbase	3,098mm
Load space length	2,537mm
Load Space Width	1,662mm
Internal height	1,387mm
Gross Vehicle Weight	3,500Kgs
Kerb Weight	2,980Kgs
Payload	1,077Kgs
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Producing a base *for the perfect finish*

We ask Festool's Paul Kirby
about achieving the perfect
finish.

It seems obvious. A perfect finish, whether for preservation or aesthetics, can only be achieved if the substrate is properly prepared. If it contains imperfections then these will affect the final finish. To make the job easier, it's all about putting in the effort in the beginning.

How can we easily prepare a surface for final finish?

Be aware of the material you're working with and how it changes in different environments.

For example, the lighting conditions need to be considered. If you paint anything in a yellow light, then change to a white light and you'll start to see any imperfections.

Working cleanly and dust-free is crucial. When using an abrasive, harmful dust will be created, which can easily scratch a workpiece. By using a dust extractor you can avoid this. In addition, a sander with a MULTIJETSTREAM 2 pad with its optimised air system creates even better dust extraction,

ensuring consistently high material removal rate and top surface quality.

Obviously, choosing the right sanders for the job is very important – whether it's removing a high level of material, a particularly fine sanding finish, or sanding large surfaces on walls and ceilings or in the smallest corners. For example when dry walling, Festool's Planex and Planex Easy long-reach sanders are lightweight with brushless motors – meaning you can prepare rooms easily and quickly.

In contrast, Festool's ROTEX RO 90 with both random orbital and eccentric sanding is versatile for coarse and fine sanding and is also suitable for working in corners such as window frames. The random orbital function means rapid removal for materials that are tougher to get off. It does the job very quickly and for every rotation the grit ravels a longer distance – working harder per rotation.

For more information on Festool's dust

extractor range and sanders visit
www.festool.co.uk.

Paul Kirby is a technical trainer at Festool UK. Paul has been a technical trainer for two years, and has come from a commercial carpentry background.

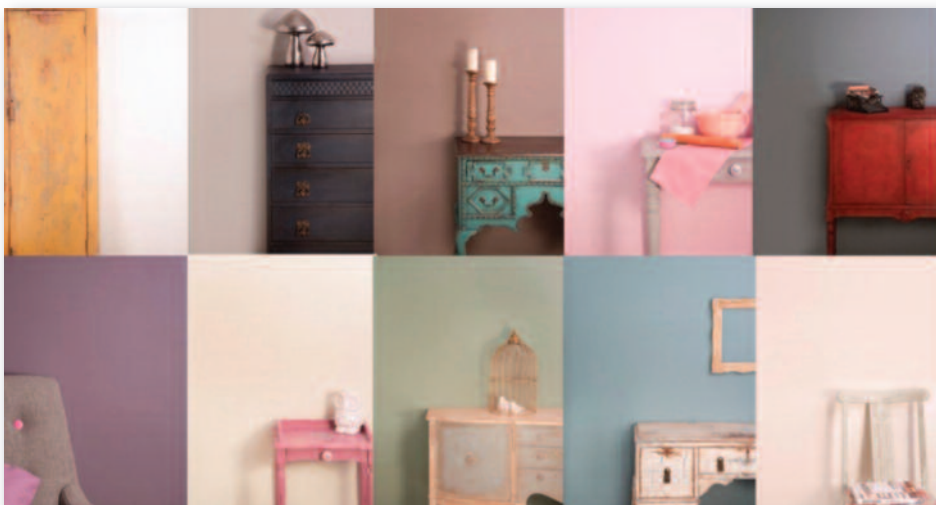




No scuffing

Benjamin Moore UK has launched Ultra Spec SCUFF-X, a single component paint engineered to resist scuffing in the most demanding high traffic commercial settings, Ultra Spec SCUFF-X is suitable for schools hallways, hospital waiting areas, retail fitting rooms, hotels lobbies, leisure facilities and corporate spaces. It combats scuffing immediately on application, helping to keep the walls in 'just painted' condition. The manufacturers claim that it offers improved durability and scuff-resistant properties over traditional 2-component coatings, without the strong odour, pre-mixing, short pot-life and application difficulties which similar products can have suffer from.

Frenchic's wall paint



Eco-friendly chalk paint brand Frenchic have announced the launch of their Wall Paint.

Available in 10 shades, the Frenchic Wall Paint is a washable, ultra-matt chalk wall paint with very little odour and superior coverage. Applied in only 1-2 coats, it's breathable and durable yet still maintains all the qualities you'd expect from Frenchic's products, including the fact it is EN 71:3 certified and therefore ideal for painting nurseries & children's rooms.

Coo-Var's Shellac Prime-All

Coo-Var's new specialist primer; Shellac Prime-All is a heavy duty shellac based coating designed to block out difficult stains and odours on a range of different substrates.



Shellac Prime-All will adhere to a wide range of surfaces such as timber, wood composites and plaster. It deals with a range of problematic stains and odours including water stains, pen oils and can be used to seal tar, bitumen and creosoted surfaces – and it dries quickly.

JCB PAINT® gets into paint

JCB PAINT® has formulated a paint that can be used on almost any exterior surface and is engineered to provide protection against the toughest conditions and has flame retardant and environmental resistant properties along with re-usable packaging. It is water-based with high opacity and is mould, water and stain resistant. There are 12 distinct shades which can be applied using a brush, roller or spray.



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For reinforcing and protecting outdoor spaces, CE approved Siloksan Façade is manufactured for use on concrete, plaster, lime-sand brick and mineral boards. The waterborne, full matt silicone emulsion paint is permeable, both UV light and heat resistant and features water-repellent technology which prevents corrosion from acid gases. Siloksan Façade does not require a separate priming coat when used in conjunction with Siloksan Gel for the first coat.

Avoid messy mastic

The Tradepad is specifically for people who work with mastic guns. Mastic guns are known to create a mess, and the Tradepad is a product which is an obvious improvement over any other existing product being used to clean the excessive mess from mastic guns. It is safe to use and helps in keeping everything clean.





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Downlighter repair

A simple downlighter cut out ceiling repair kit requires no access to the ceiling space. It's design allows it to be manoeuvred through the cut out and fitted inside the ceiling leaving it invisible from below. Until now the only solution for downlighter cut out ceiling repair was to replace sections of ceiling or in some cases to replace the entire ceiling. It is suitable for plasterboard ceilings up to 15mm thick and comes in a range of standard sizes. Made from fire resistant (euro class B) MDF with a galvanised steel band liner and fixed with screws and structural filler, the repair kit allows not only the repair but also the repositioning and resizing of downlighter cut outs. This gives allowing the option of exchanging larger out dated fittings for new smaller modern fittings as well as reinforcing them to prevent further damage.

Available in sizes: 60mm, 65mm, 70mm, 75mm, 80mm, 85mm, 90mm.



Easy mixer

Cyklone is a low cost multi-purpose paint mixer that, say the manufacturers, takes full advantage of 'basic fluid dynamics'. Made from 304 stainless the Cyclone multi-purpose mixing device fits any variable-speed drill and can stir and can mix a range of materials. Each rotation of the impeller creates a mixing effect, using tapered holes to increase the velocity of the liquid being stirred or mixed, whilst forcing the mixture together with every turn. The product then forces the liquid up the sides of the container only to be sucked back down the middle creating a constant mixing process.

A curved and bevelled base means that it can be rested against the bottom of any container and continue mixing without causing damage or loss of power, all the while agitating and lifting any settled material at the base of the container.



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Safeguard's Drybase Flex in kit form

Safeguard Europe has created a compact kit form of its Drybase range which is for tackling smaller areas of hard-to-treat damp; or as a handy 'on the van' option for instant use.

The kit form of Drybase simply comprises a 3m roll of Drybase Flex Membrane and a 10kg bag of Drybase Flex Adhesive – just the right amount to fix the membrane provided.

Drybase Flex Membrane is a flexible membrane for direct application to walls that have been affected by dampness and salt contamination. The fleece lined membrane can be quickly and easily applied to walls using the specially formulated adhesive. It can be plastered onto directly creating a versatile solution to the problem of damp walls, when it is not possible to stop the damp at its source.

Bond It launches new waterproofing system

Bond It has launched EasiSeal Pro - a one-part, cold applied liquid waterproofing system which is virtually odourless, non-flammable and extremely low in VOCs.

Called EasiSeal PRO, it requires no heating prior to application and can be simply painted onto a substrate using a brush or roller to form a permanently flexible, waterproof barrier.

It is also non-shrinking, non-cracking and overpaintable with most paints as well as highly UV resistant and stable under temperatures ranging from -50°C to 120°C.



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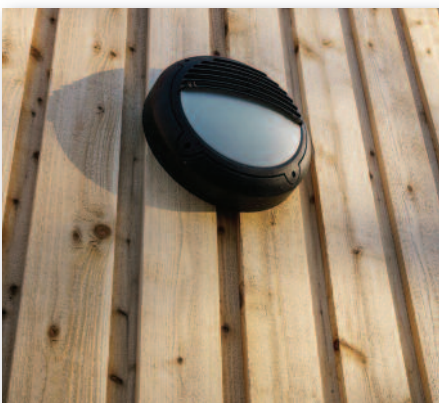
Festool's intelligent move

Festool is launching intelligent new products to make dust free working easier: two new Bluetooth batteries and a Bluetooth remote control, as well as a new smooth hose and mobile dust extractor.

With the new retrofittable Bluetooth module dust can be extracted with cordless Festool tools without the need for a power cable. The premium manufacturer is extending its range of compatible batteries with the addition of two new 5.2 and 6.2 Ah Bluetooth-capable battery packs.

The range of extractors has expanded with a newly developed, smooth suction hose, which ensures seamless dust extraction without the inconvenience of the hose catching. In addition the redesigned CT 26, 36 and 48 mobile dust extractors feature practical functions, such as the optimised SYS-Dock with T-LOC function for conveniently connecting SYSTAINERS on the mobile dust extractor and a new cord holder.

Wood cladding sealer



Sansin Wood Sealer is a coating which offers moisture protection for exterior cladding, but retaining a natural weathered, silvery-grey tone. Designed to bring dimensional stability to wood by reducing moisture absorption up to 74% during wet periods, Wood Sealer dries clear, will not peel and can be used for interiors as well as exteriors. Wood Sealer is for cladding, decks, fences, wood shingles, gazebos and garden furniture.

A coating for plastic

The latest addition to HMG's range, PVC17, has been specially formulated to maximise throughput whilst minimising environmental impact enabling compliance with the latest legislation.

As a premium 1K Vinyl Acrylic Topcoat the product is for direct application to plastic substrates such as vinyl curtains and window and doors. Formulated to adhere strongly to rigid and flexible plasticised surfaces, it is for such applications as Plastisol architectural cladding, automotive interior trim, ABS plastics, PVC roofing and lorry side curtains.

Through tinting PVC17 is available in virtually limitless colours including RAL, BS & Commercial Transport colours and three gloss levels. PVC17 can be applied by brush or spray, drying rapidly to a durable film with light fastness and colour retention.





tesa® tapes provide the perfect finish

In tesa's long association with the professionals in painting, decorating and associated businesses, one thing has always been paramount – the ability to deliver a precise finish. High quality and high performance tools are essential for the professional tradesman.

That's why tesa's Precision Mask® range was developed. The company not only understands, but responds to the professionals' need for quality. A painter who can deliver high quality work on time will always stay ahead of the competition. Painters and decorators need to

produce perfect results quickly and without the risk of having to redo work – which costs time and money.

To get the right results the first time, it is key to select the right tape for the job.

Masking tapes for painting and decorating must be able to cope with a number of factors. They must be easy to apply and bond reliably to surfaces, so there is no risk of paint creeping underneath, should remove cleanly without leaving adhesive residues or tearing, and

must provide a razor-sharp paint edge for a professional finish.

The quality of the finish is determined by the type of masking tape used. If a precise edge is required, tesa has a range of extremely thin masking tapes made from a Japanese Washi paper. Tapes in this range include **tesa® 4440 Precision Mask® Outdoor**, **tesa® 4334 Precision Mask® Indoor** and **tesa® 4333 Precision Mask® Sensitive**.

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tesa® 4440 Precision Mask® Outdoor is UV and humidity resistant. The combination of the highly equipped backing material and outstanding special adhesive formulation allows **easy removability up to 26 weeks** after application outdoors, enabling multiple working processes in only one covering.



tesa® 4334 Precision Mask® Indoor consists of an extra-thin Japanese rice paper backing, with an adhesive formulation which allows for **easy removability for up to 6 months** indoors, a precise razor-sharp paint edge and no paint bleed.



tesa® 4333 Precision Mask® Sensitive is perfect for paint work on delicate surfaces such as wallpaper and freshly painted walls. It is extremely gentle yet still sticks firmly and prevents paint bleed without damaging surfaces, providing **14 day residue-free removal** and giving a razor-sharp edge to speed up paint jobs.



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