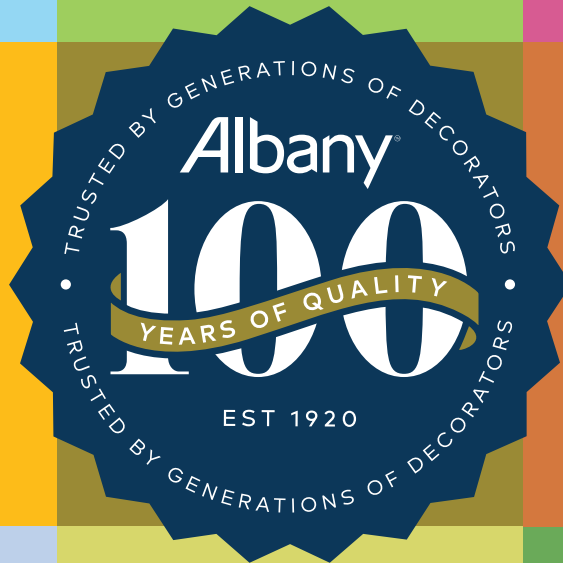


# The Professional Painter & Decorator



# NEW



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# The Professional Painter & Decorator

INCORPORATING THE PAINTING & DECORATING JOURNAL

## News 2

### Making the shift with Ecoseal 8

Using high-quality, sustainable products is a natural progression, especially in light of current environmental issues and legislation. Here, Andy Cummins, of Geocel looks at plastic waste in particular and the steps you can take to help make a difference.

### Save time on site 12

Andrew Cummins of Purdy explains how choosing the right brushes and rollers can save time on site without compromising on quality.

### Dulux announces 2021 Colour Of The Year – Brave Ground 18

A panel of decorating experts took inspiration from nature in selecting the warm and grounding shade, Brave Ground, as its Colour of the Year for 2021.

### The WernerCo PAXTower: for all your work at height needs 22

The new PAXTower with folding base by WernerCo is equipped with a raft of timesaving and safety-enhancing new features and is fully compliant with the latest safety regulations.

### The show must go on! And it did, but with a difference 24

The pandemic forced the postponement of this year's National Painting and Decorating Show, but an Online P&D Show 2020 made its debut in mid-September, opening its 'virtual' doors for a six-week run. Here's our round-up of what was happening at [online.paintshow.co.uk](http://online.paintshow.co.uk)

### Painting floors 30

James Burton of Bradite looks at what is involved when undertaking the painting of both domestic and industrial flooring.

### Oiling the wheels of fortune 34

Here Richard Bradley of Liberon looks at one of the oldest forms of wood finishing: the application of oils, which gives a natural, hardwearing finish with an unmistakable sheen and silky smoothness that customers will appreciate.

### Why the feel of your brush is so important 38

In research conducted recently by Hamilton, 'the feel' of the brush ranked number 4 in the top ten most important factors when choosing a brush. But what is 'the feel' and why is it so important?

### Trousers for females 42

Prodec has designed decorator's trousers for females.

### Hygienic paint solutions 46

With the threat of coronavirus demanding exceptional levels of cleanliness inside buildings, your customers will be looking for more than just a fresh coat of paint. Crown Paints explains how specialist, premium paints can provide professional decorators with the tools they need.

## Marketplace 50



**The National  
Painting & Decorating Show  
Nov 23rd - Nov 24th 2021**

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Published by  
**DPA Publishing Ltd**  
Stoney Lane Barn  
Stoney Lane  
Bovingdon  
Herts HP3 0LY

**Advertising** 01442 832715

**Production** The Orange Design Group

**Printed by** Walstead, Roche

# PAINTING AND DECORATING NEWS

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# New spray range comes to Dulux Decorator Centre

Dulux Decorator Centre has introduced a new range of spray products brands such as Graco, Tritech and Q-Tech which are designed to be simple, cover areas faster and distribute paint for an even finish and has proved it can save more than 18 hours of work.

Two decorators were given the same project to paint two floors of a 530m<sup>2</sup> building but one was given a roller and the other a spray machine.

While decorator A, armed with a roller, took 24 hours to complete the project, decorator B took just five hours and 20 minutes to spray the entire area involved.

Switching to spray not only reduces the time it takes to complete a project, thus cutting labour costs, but it also leaves much less mess - allowing a decorator to move on to the next project even more quickly.

With this in mind, Dulux Decorator Centre is now stocking the latest range of spray products suitable for projects varying from small touch-ups and interior walls and ceilings, to exterior walls and intumescent and fire-retardant areas.

And to support decorators further, the Dulux Academy offers a range of spray courses at various locations across the UK, so they can learn from an experienced training team to help them master the technique and get the most from spray.

Visit [www.duluxdecoratorcentre.co.uk/spray](http://www.duluxdecoratorcentre.co.uk/spray) or your local store to see the new range.

## Renovation plasters

Safeguard Europe's Dryzone high-performance plasters collection is a range of breathable pre-blended plasters designed to stop salt migration and aid drying on damp walls. All four variants in the range have been developed and tested to provide excellent resistance to hygroscopic salts whilst providing a highly breathable surface.

The plasters are suitable for replacing existing plaster that has already deteriorated (having already tackled the cause of the damp); or for use in new-build and conversion projects to limit potential damage caused by minor ingress of dampness during the lifetime of the building. They are also suitable for use in other situations where residual damp will be present, such as after treatment for penetrating damp or as part of a flood repair project.

The plasters can be applied to walls while they are still damp and, by controlling salt migration and allowing walls to dry out by evaporation, the walls achieve a higher thermal resistance, reducing the risk of future condensation. New to the range is Dryzone Fast-Set Plaster, which cures in around two hours and is suitable where speed of application is crucial, such as where tenants may have to be decanted or where disruption needs to be minimised. It is also ideal for smaller areas, repairs and dubbing out uneven walls.

## Osmo UK transforms entrance

When the owners of a detached family home in rural Shropshire required the front porch and door to be sanded and re-oiled, they called upon David Lloyd Painting and Decorating

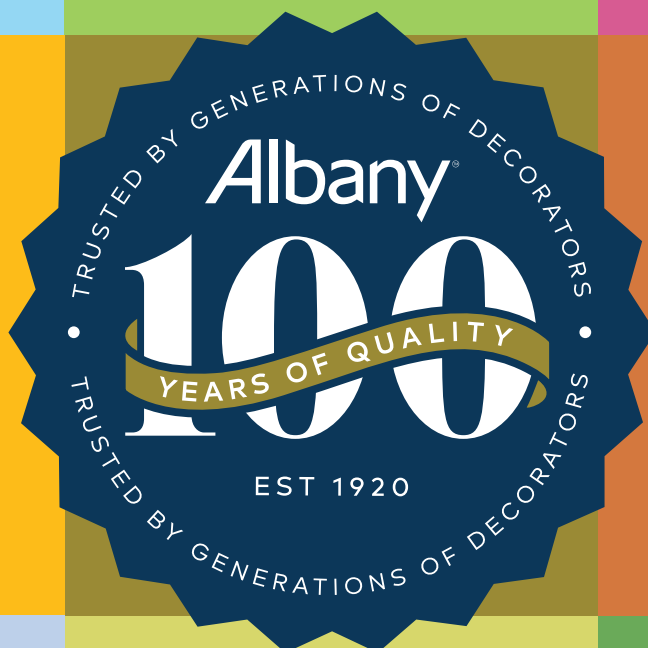
The porch had been oiled many years ago so was looking tired and worn, while the door, which had been previously varnished, was now peeling pretty badly. When David Lloyd visited the property, the owner explained that they would like the wood to be treated using products from Osmo UK. David has had some experience using Osmo UK finishes, so he was confident that the chosen product would provide the right finish, opting for UV-Protection-Oil.

"I spent half a day sanding the surfaces down with my Festool RTS400 sander and numerous sanding pads," explained David. "I started with a P80 grit and worked my way down to a P120 grit. This is the recommended finishing grade for accepting the Osmo finish. Once sanded and cleaned, it took me a couple of hours to apply the first thin coat of UV-Protection-Oil. I let this coat dry overnight and returned the following day to apply a second coat.

"I thoroughly enjoy using Osmo UK products as they are nice to apply, the product goes on really well and the clear oil allows the natural beauty of the wood to show through."

Based on natural oil, it does not crack, flake, peel or blister. This natural protective finish has been produced to delay the greying effect on exterior wood due to exposure to the sun, whilst maintaining the wood's natural aesthetics.





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## Johnstone's for kitchens

A place for cooking, spending time with family and socialising with friends – the kitchen is often said to be one of the most important rooms within a home. With this in mind, it's important for professional painters and decorators to ensure the space is visually appealing, while also offering high levels of durability and protection against wear and tear.

Jack Stokes, of Nationwide Upcycled Kitchens, completes around three to four kitchen decoration projects each week. With a busy schedule and high customer expectations, Jack knew he needed to invest in a high quality, trustworthy paint so he approached the team at his local Johnstone's Decorating Centre for advice. Based on his need for a paint that would provide

durability and withstand the daily wear and tear of a busy home kitchen, the team recommended Johnstone's Trade Aqua Guard – a new water based paint for interior wood and metal.

Jack explained: "I've used Johnstone's Trade Aqua Satin and Johnstone's Trade Acrylic Durable Eggshell on jobs for a number of years but, when I spoke to the team about the level of durability I need to provide for customers, they recommended I upgrade to the new Aqua Guard. It's one of the best paints I've ever used – I tested it myself to see if it could withstand the hustle and bustle of a busy kitchen and it's almost like a plastic coating has been applied. It stood up to kitchen utensils easily with no damage, and I now use it on a daily basis with the

confidence that I've provided a high-quality, durable paint for customers."

Jack has a quick turnaround time on jobs and so drying time was another important factor: "Drying time is key for me when it comes to choosing paint. In the past, I've used paints that appear dry in most areas but have still been sticky in the corners of the room when I've come to apply a second coat – sometimes this has caused issues with the undercoat or first coat of paint. This isn't the case with Aqua Guard, it works as a two-coat system. I can apply just one undercoat and one top coat with confidence that it will be dry in a shorter amount of time."

Since trialing Johnstone's Trade Aqua Guard in April 2020, Jack has used the paint on all of his kitchen decoration projects.

## Wernerco welcomes work at height guidance

Leading manufacturer of work at height and access equipment, WernerCo, is welcoming new safety guidance published by the Access Industry Forum (AIF) as falls from height continue to increase.

Safety Steps, which has been created in conjunction with other work at height organisations, includes comprehensive advice for anybody using a ladder or employers responsible for specifying working at height equipment for employees.

As part of the guidance, it is highlighted that anybody working at height must have sufficient knowledge and training before undertaking any job. In order to comply with this, WernerCo offers specific work at height training such as the Ladder Association's Ladders and Stepladders for Users or PASMA's Towers for Users course to ensure best practice when working at height.

Jamie Brassington, Product Manager at WernerCo, comments: "It's positive to see work at height continues to be highly important for organisations such as the AIF. However, falls from height still remain the leading cause of workplace accidents.

"Here at WernerCo we are actively taking steps to ensure we're offering tradesmen the safest solutions, from ladders and work platforms through to our access towers and fall arrest kits. For those looking to attend training following the guidance issued by the AIF, our half-day training courses can make all the difference when safeguarding yourself and co-workers and go a long way in reducing accidents on site."

WernerCo's Ladder Association approve training sessions are suitable for both users and inspectors. Both courses comprise practical and theory assessments, covering when and how to use, handle and store a ladder, as well as how to highlight potential hazards. For equipment inspectors, delegates can learn how to assess and determine when it is appropriate to inspect a ladder or stepladder, and how to recommend the correct action if faults are found.



## Brewers brighten playground

Enstone Primary School in Oxfordshire has a wonderful mural in its playground which was created many years ago to brighten up the playground and hadn't been touched since. It was decided it was time to bring some much-needed colour back but paint desperately needed to complete the task. Brewers Bicester were happy to help and kindly donated some of the paint. Branch manager Vicky called around the area, and other local Brewers branches donated the rest of the paint required as well. A variety of different colours were needed, so Brewers Bicester helped to create the desired tints in Albany Masonry paint, which is great for brickwork and keeping that all-important brightness of colour.





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## Moore's colour

Benjamin Moore has announced its Colour of the Year 2021, Aegean Teal 2136-40. The comforting and versatile hue, is a blue-green blend that invites us to reflect and reset. Creating natural harmony, Aegean Teal 2136-40 was chosen for its earthy quality that will enrich and enhance your space, bridging the gap between warm and cool shades. Andrea Magno, Benjamin Moore Director of Color Marketing & Development says, "Aegean Teal 2136-40 expresses a welcoming, lived-in quality that celebrates the connections and real moments that take place within the home."

## Vauxhall Combo Cargo named the Best Small Delivery Van

The Business Vans judges were impressed with the Vauxhall Combo Cargo's class-leading fuel economy and high payload capacity. Under WLTP testing, the Vauxhall Combo Cargo achieves up to 68.8mpg and emissions as low as 107g/km CO<sub>2</sub>. With a payload up to 1,002kg, the Combo Cargo is an ideal choice for businesses and trades looking for a compact but efficient van.

"Practical, comfortable, economical and packed with all latest driver assistance and connectivity technology, the Vauxhall Combo Cargo is a small van for big business," said Chris Wight, Managing Editor, Business Vans.

The Business Vans Awards are now in their sixth year and represent the almost six million businesses operating in the small-to-medium van sector. The Awards are judged independently by experts to ensure impartiality and credibility.

Richard Hughes, Vauxhall's Light Commercial Vehicle Director, said: "The Vauxhall Combo Cargo continues to impress the sector with its award-winning combination of space, practicality and low running costs. With such a hotly-contested segment, it's fantastic to see the Combo Cargo outperform many of its rivals in these key areas."

## Crown murals brighten up Darwen

Crown Paints has teamed up with one of Lancashire's most famous street artists to create two colourful murals in the Lancashire town of Darwen, where Crown's HQ is located.

The latest mural was completed by Keiron 'Curly' Whitehead in time for pupils at St Edwards RC primary School in Darwen to return to lessons at the start of the autumn term. The colourful mural, which features local landmarks and an uplifting message, brightens up the playground, providing a fun space for the children to enjoy.

The collaboration between Crown and Curly began in May with the creation of a large mural designed as a tribute to the fantastic work of the local NHS and other key workers during the pandemic. The 'blank canvas' chosen for the mural was an end of terrace house on Hollins Road, just a few yards from Crown's HQ.

Curly created both murals using Sandtex X-Treme X-Posure smooth masonry paint in a range of vivid colours and all paint for both projects was donated by Crown via its Crown Decorating Centre in Blackburn.

Commenting, Keiron said: "Just after we completed the first mural, a crowdfunding page was set up to raise money to support local people who had been affected by COVID-19. A total of £1,600 was raised within a matter of weeks and this has been donated to the local food bank and the Wish Centre, a Darwen-based domestic violence refuge. A small amount was also used to purchase art supplies for upcoming community projects at the Darwen Heritage Centre."



## tesa insight on importance of preparation

In a new survey of professional painters and decorators by adhesive manufacturer, tesa has revealed an insight into the importance of preparation work, product purchasing decisions and important industry information sources.

Surveying 450 painters and decorators across the country, the results highlighted preparation is a key part of a project, with 56 per cent always using tape to prepare for a paint job, while 3 per cent only use when creating design features.

Over three quarters (83 per cent) highlighted quality as the most important factor when purchasing products, prioritising this over price (17 per cent).

Purchasing the right product for the paint job is of great importance, with nearly three quarters (72 per cent) trying out new products and half (50 per cent) looking at online reviews before parting with their money.

When it comes to sources of information trade publications are still seen as a trusted source with 68 per cent regular readers.

It also highlighted social media as a growing platform for painters and decorators to share their work and where 64 per cent find out about new products and updates in the industry.

Donna Smith, Trade Marketing Manager at tesa UK, commented: "This research has provided us with important insight to continue to understand the needs of our customers and ensure we evolve with the changing demands of the industry."



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# Making the shift with Ecoséal

Using high-quality, sustainable products is a natural progression, especially in light of current environmental issues and legislation. Here, Andy Cummins, Senior Product Manager at Geocel looks at plastic waste in particular and the small steps you can take, to help make a difference.



Although the basics remain the same, many aspects of the painting and decorating sector have changed in the last decade. Whether that is due to new trends in colour, the rise of innovative paint technologies or the growing importance of issues like indoor air quality, the market looks different to the way it did in the early 2010's. Nowadays, to get the most from the profession, it is essential to have a firm grasp on these developments and what's more, it is important to have an awareness of where things will go next.

One area that is garnering increasing attention is plastic waste. Construction activities in particular tend to generate a lot of waste material, which often can't be recycled. As such, the industry ranks amongst the least sustainable around. In fact, the sector consumes 23% of all plastic produced in the UK, and generates an

estimated 50,000 tonnes of plastic packaging waste every year.

Shockingly, within this mix are more than 100 million plastic cartridges, which are being sent to landfill each year – including those empty filler cartridges decorators throw away on a daily basis.

In light of this, manufacturers are responding with more modern, sustainable solutions. Geocel Painters Mate, for example, is now part of the re-launched ecoséal system, which means that the product is now available in more environmentally friendly foils, which are used in conjunction with a re-usable sleeve.

With the ecoséal system there's no need to buy an expensive barrel gun. It's easy to use – simply cut the foil, insert into the sleeve, attach the nozzle and fit into any standard

gun. Each sleeve can be used an average of 75 times and is also recyclable – and when empty, the foils are eight times smaller than traditional cartridges, meaning less waste is sent to landfill.

Additionally, the system is more lightweight than foil barrel guns, which reduces fatigue in user's arms and enables nimbler usage. Similarly, as the ecoséal sleeve is clear, users can also always see exactly how much product is left. By adopting the solution, painters and decorators can reduce their individual plastic waste and ensure that a smaller tonnage of material is ultimately sent to landfill overall.

For larger operations in particular, this helps to reduce the costs associated with waste disposal and as a result, sustainable solutions can now be considered a more



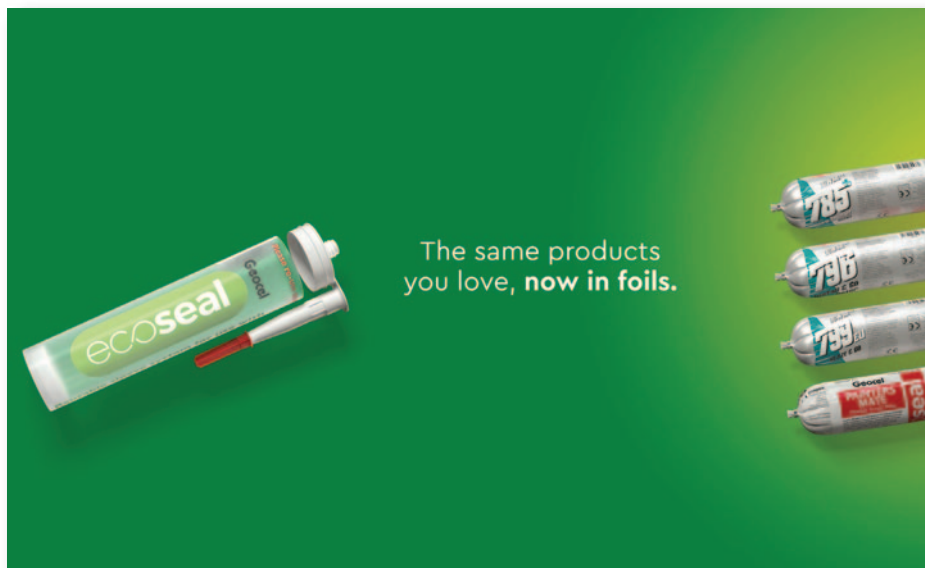
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cost-effective solution than ever before. In recent years, there has been escalating costs associated with disposing of on-site waste. In particular, waste that needs to be sent to landfill - such as single-use plastic filler cartridges - are now more expensive to dispose of than before. The driving force behind this increase has been landfill tax, which has trebled since 2008 to a current

cost of £91.35 per tonne of landfill waste.

Decorators who adopt more sustainable solutions won't only see a positive impact on their bottom line, in fact, making the switch can help them to boost their environmental credentials with customers. For painting and decorating firms, choosing more sustainable products is an easy way to highlight this point. As we enter a new decade, it's clear

that consumers have a better understanding of the environmental impact of their purchases. The rise of the 'ethical customer' is a phenomenon felt across industries and will only continue to rise. In fact, almost half of people under the age of 24 say they actively avoid products or services which have a negative environmental impact. As these people grow older and buy homes for themselves, it is likely that this decision-making process will extend to home repairs. As such, decorators who shun sustainable solutions could reasonably expect to be challenged, in the years to come.

Shifting to more sustainable technologies doesn't have to mean compromising on performance, or paying more. Instead, it can represent a way to improve working practices and attract new customers who are more conscious about their impact on the world around them.

For more information on ecoSEAL, please visit:  
<https://www.geocel.co.uk/ecoseal/>



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#whatsyourproblem

# Save time *on site*

Andrew Cummins of Purdy explains how choosing the right brushes and rollers can save time on site without compromising on quality.



While professional decorators know the value of a quality brush and roller, the tools selected for any job can also improve your productivity and efficiency on site. When working on a project, choosing the most suitable brush for a specific job really can make a difference.

Purdy has advocated the use of a suite of brushes and rollers, each made for a certain application with part of its design, such as the shape and filaments, selected for a specific purpose. All-encompassing brushes are not designed or shaped for a specific job, which may ultimately result in more time spent on site correcting mistakes, and a subpar product will need to be replaced more often once the bristles have been damaged by paint or stains.

An angled brush, for example, is perfect for cutting in corners and detailed trim areas. It is designed for tight spaces and allows for a greater control in difficult places. Conversely, a flat wall brush such as Purdy's Monarch Elite is a thick brush designed with large



surface areas and productivity in mind. Available in five sizes, the bristles have been carefully designed to pick up and lay off more paint than a regular brush, helping get the job done faster, without compromising the quality of the finish.

In addition, purchasing brushes that have specific filament blends for different types of paints and coatings, will not only ensure the best finish for the job but will also improve the longevity of the brushes as after-care is much easier.

For example, some bristles types are only used for stains, varnishes and oils - as if used

in water-based paint, decorators will find that the brush absorbs the water in the finish - causing the bristles to splay out in the brush. In contrast, the Purdy Sprig, for example, is a thinner synthetic filament brush made for water-based paint, so the bristles won't 'swell' and will retain its shape, allowing you to apply the paint with less drag, leaving you with a flawless finish.

In the same way there are specific brushes for different applications, the same goes for rollers. There are a variety of sleeves available, which all achieve different finishes and can distribute paint more densely than brushes.

Generally, the length of material, also known as the nap, will determine the outcome. The smoother the

surface is, the shorter the nap on the roller should be. Short naps are recommended for internal walls as these provide the smoothest finish. A longer nap is typically designed to better resist wear and tear are designed to leave a great finish on rough surfaces such as artex or textured wallpaper. Longer naps also help to get into the small crevices on the wall - this is especially important if painting over exposed brick.

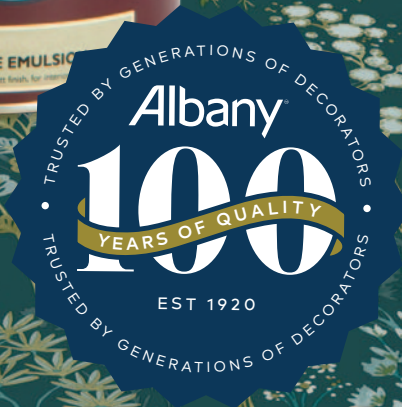
For more information on which Purdy brush is perfect for each application, visit the Purdy Product Finder at [www.purdy.co.uk](http://www.purdy.co.uk).



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# Dulux Trade unveils the ultimate in scuff resistance with new Scuffshield

Dulux Trade has developed its most technologically-advanced anti-scuff formulation yet with new Dulux Trade Scuffshield Matt.

The flagship product has been precision-engineered to provide the ultimate in scuff resistance - offering performance up to six times better than standard matt wall paint and up to three times better than a standard durable matt - meaning walls will stay looking better for longer.

Incorporating new Scuff Resistance Technology, it is designed to reduce the impact of plastic and rubber materials on the paint surface to protect walls against scuff marks from everyday items like shoes and bags.

This provides an exceptional, hard-wearing solution decorators can offer to both commercial and domestic customers - from busy public environments such as schools to protecting areas of the home that take a lot of knocks including hallways and stairs

Karen Wilkinson, Dulux Trade Marketing Lead comments: "At Dulux Trade we're committed to developing world class products that ensure decorators can always deliver a fantastic finish so they have happy customers and benefit from word of mouth referrals that help them to grow their business.

"We're delighted to unveil Dulux Trade Scuffshield Matt. It's a tough, water-based emulsion that offers a step-change improvement in scuff-resistance while providing a high-quality, easily-wipeable matt finish.

"Whether in a school, restaurant, rental flat or family home it leaves walls looking better for longer, ensuring decorators can be



confident the finish they leave their customer with will last for the long term."

The development of the product was led by Gary Jefferson, EMEA Interior Wall Paints R&D Manager, who explains: "Creating a really smooth surface at a microscopic level is the key to lessening scuffing on walls.

"This helps to reduce the impact from items known to cause scuff marks and lessen deposits of material behind left on the paint film.

"By building on wider AkzoNobel technical innovations we have been able to formulate an advanced product that takes scuff-resistance and durability to a new level."

Dulux Trade Scuffshield Matt extends the range of durable options Dulux Trade offers, which also includes the Diamond range - providing increased options for the trade professional so they can choose the best

product for each job.

It's available in the full Dulux Trade tinted colour range - offering a wide choice of colours to meet any customer requirement.

Karen adds: "By providing the ultimate in scuff resistance, Dulux Trade Scuffshield Matt makes the maintenance of a building or busy home much easier, less costly, and more environmentally friendly, as you're having to utilise less product and less labour to manage it on an ongoing basis.

"The exceptional performance of Dulux Trade Scuffshield Matt will withstand the wear and tear of everyday life, leaving paintwork looking pristine for longer."

For more information, visit: <https://www.duluxtradepaintexpert.co.uk/content/scuffshield>.

*This feature is sponsored by Dulux Trade*





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# Dulux announces 2021 Colour Of The Year - *Brave Ground*

Dulux has revealed its Colour Of The Year for 2021 is Brave Ground™. A panel of decorating experts took inspiration from nature in selecting the warm and grounding shade.



The natural tone creates a neutral canvas allowing other colours to shine in the home. Adapting to its surroundings, Brave Ground™ also flexes in tone depending on the time of day and setting, creating a subtly responsive environment that's reflective of people's growing desire to align how they live with our planet.

Four supporting palettes provide decorators with the opportunity to give their customers inspiration, showing how Brave Ground™ can be used to decorate rooms in

complementary colour schemes that create multi-functional but also nurturing home environments.

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- TRUST - Unifying earth





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- TIMELESS - Inspiring yellows and ochres to bring positivity
- EXPRESSIVE - Stand-out reds and pinks to energize spaces

Panel Chair Heleen van Gent, Head of the AkzoNobel Global Aesthetic Centre, which chooses the colours, explains: "The past year has seen unprecedented change to all our lives. For many it has transformed the function of their homes. They are now environments to work, learn and relax.

"But, above all, during these challenging times, homes provide valuable respite. And that is at the heart of our Dulux Colour Of The Year choice for 2021 - Brave Ground™."

Karen Wilkinson, Marketing Lead at Dulux Trade adds: "The organic tone of Brave Ground™ will allow decorators to talk to customers about creating a really comforting environment within their homes.

"Combining it with the supporting palettes opens up a whole range of possibilities from

energising reds and pinks to unifying earth tones of warm greys and browns, perfect to help customers find a colour scheme for any space."

Dulux Trade is committed to equipping decorators with the tools and training they need to support their customers when making colour choices. The Colour Of The Year and four supporting palettes provide decorators with the opportunity to really engage with homeowners following the disruption of the pandemic.

Karen adds: "To support decorators in talking to customers about colour, we've created a Colour Of The Year Decorator guide, a handy booklet that can be used when guiding customers to make those important colour decisions, so they are able to show how Brave Ground™ can work in any customer's home.

"We're also helping professionals to be more colour confident with colour and design training courses run by Dulux Academy.

"The range of courses has been expanded in 2020, and for the first time ever, now includes face-to-face and online ColourFutures™ courses. These sessions give decorators the chance to gain more insight into how we predict colours for future trends and how we choose names for our colours and can be attended in person at Dulux Academy in Slough or virtually through Dulux Academy Live."



A close-up photograph of a Mirka Abranet orbital sander. The sander has a black body and a large, circular, textured sanding disc. On the disc, the number '20' is printed in a large, light grey font, with the text 'YEARS OF DUST-FREE SANDING' curved around it. Below the '20', the 'MIRKA' logo is printed in a smaller, light grey font. The background is a blurred image of a person in a white shirt, suggesting a professional or industrial setting.

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# The WernerCo PAXTower: *for all your work at height needs*

The new PAXTower with folding base by WernerCo is equipped with a raft of timesaving and safety-enhancing new features and is fully compliant with the latest safety regulations.



Assembly of the new PaxTower base pack of is simple; to get started users simply fold out the structure until it clicks into place. When building the tower to higher levels, a specially designed slot-in spigot with interlock clips prevents tilting when connecting the end frames, enabling a smooth build. Once constructed, components stay firmly in place and can be released using simple mechanisms. Its sturdy, flexible construction and quick assembly make the tower a product for frequent and trade users.

Joost Knapen, Head of Product EMEA at

WernerCo, said:  
"At the outset of designing the new PAXTower, we wanted to fulfil our commitment to continually making our products safer and easier to use. At the same time, we wanted to make sure our latest products adhered to the latest British and European standards. "

The PAXTower is available in two build methods:

Through the Trapdoor (3T) and Advanced Guardrail (AGR), with the option to build up to a platform height of 5.6m to 7.65m. Its 1.80 by 0.72m platform can withstand loads of up to 208 kilograms.

The AGR PAXTowers contain fewer components to allow for a quick and safe build, while the specially designed guardrail features foldable arms to make the component compact for easy storage and transportation.

The 3T braced version provides 360° protection at all times and ensures complete stability. Colour coded claws on the tower's braces make identifying the correct brace simple, helping to ensure a safe and correct build.

Three new features enhance the folding frame's ease of use and speed, as Joost explains: "Smooth running slip-on guides

made of hard plastic, known as spigots, make connecting push-on frames a cinch. Through a mechanism, the toe board moves into the right position almost by itself. And set-up is just as easy; simply fold it out – the frame gives a satisfying click when secured into place."

The PAXTower comes with stabilisers as standard as well as stabiliser extensions in the 5.6m version, alleviating the need for a second set of larger stabilisers and maximising ease of use, without sacrificing safety.







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# The Show must go on

## *And it did, but with a difference*

The pandemic forced the postponement of this year's National Painting and Decorating Show, but that hasn't stopped manufacturers and suppliers from keeping decorators up to date with the latest product news and innovation. Marking a first for the industry, The Online P&D Show 2020 made its debut in mid-September, opening its 'virtual' doors for a six-week run. The event proved a great success, with thousands of visitors logging into the event. Here's our round-up of what was happening at [online.paintshow.co.uk](https://online.paintshow.co.uk)

The Online P&D Show 2020 had a familiar feel about it. Leading suppliers and top brands exhibited, new products were launched and plenty of special offers were up for grabs. An info-packed series of MasterClass sessions, many in video format, allowed visitors to watch, read and learn about new finishes, techniques and top tips from the pros. The ever popular competitions went ahead as well, with a host of great prizes on offer.

Visitors simply had to log in, sit back and enjoy the show, says the event's organiser, Terry Dullaway. "With the launch of our online show, we are grateful to the many participating exhibitors for ensuring the continuity of this annual industry event".

With nearly 50 companies exhibiting, this year's event featured products across all decorating categories – from paint and wallcoverings to tools and applicators, from prep to finishing, and everything in between.

### So what's new?

As decorators know, proper preparation is the key to success. The 3M™ Hand-Masker™ M3000 Dispenser saves prep time by applying painter's tape to masking film, plastic or paper in one continuous application. Ciret's many brands provide solutions from prep to finishing, including the innovative brush technology of the Kana Tank Brush. And in addition to its core range of abrasives, Indasa offers a selection of decorator's essentials for surface preparation - from tungsten carbide paint scrapers to

masking tapes and films.

FrogTape® masking tapes, designed for use with most paints and surfaces, are treated with Paintblock® Technology to help keep




paint out and lines sharp. And Deltac Tape 'is taking professionals to the next level.'


Wagner explained the spray painting technology behind its range. Gray Campling's Titan range of paint sprayers includes the Impact series and the Titan Focus 500 XVL 240v Handheld sprayer, while Q1® Premium Masking Solutions' professional range is designed for both traditional and airless spray painting.

Bedec offers a new generation of water-based paint for the new millennium. And C-Tec's PeelTec saves time and labour so painters can move quickly to the next job.

Pioneer Brush showed its handcrafted professional grade paintbrushes, designed for use with modern and traditional paints, while Coleman Brothers, distributor of Arrowworthy paint brushes, rollers and roller sleeves, describes its new Classic range as an all-rounder for oil-based and water-based




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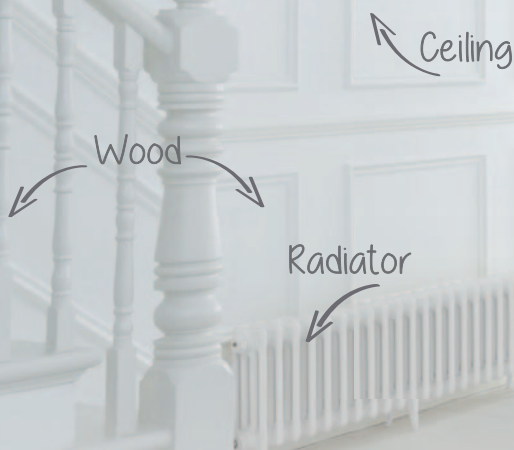


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paints.

Barrettine's range of floor lacquers, paint and varnish removers, and wood treatments now includes Armourflex, which reacts with oxygen so there's no need for mixing two pack systems. And Graphenstone, which manufactures 100% natural, mineral, VOC-free sustainable paints and primers, says its Graphene technology's adherence and elasticity reduces cracking to minimise repainting.

Little Greene, British manufacturer of a complete range of traditional and modern paints, featured interior and exterior finishes, oil-based paints, floor paint and hard-wearing, water-based Intelligent Paints, designed for today's busy homes, while Canada's Nour Painting Tools showed its range of paint brushes, paint rollers, accessories and floor coatings tools.

Axus Décor displayed its new Dec-X Painter's Caulk, Captain Chunk Paint Kettle and Abrazor Ceramic Oxide Paper, plus a new addition to the Wallpaper Press. And Gyproc showed its EasiFill powder fillers and EasiFiller ready-mixed range.

Smith & Rodger's Blockade white shellac primer delivers increased coverage, improved flow and less odour, while its Rocktop clear multi-surface coating offers durability and versatility.

Protek's water-based wood stains, decorative timber coatings and preservatives offer good coverage and durability, and Liberon highlighted six products - Black Bison Wax Polish, Palette and Spirit Wood Dyes, Superior Danish, Tung and Finishing Oils - plus the cost- and time-saving V33 Multi-Surface White paint.

Univar Specialty Consumables showcased the

Purdy®, Mirka, Hamilton and tesa® brands. WRX Trade's wide range includes high performance trade paints, spray paints, technical sprays and accessories. And UltraGrime® Clothwipes stay wet and usable for over an hour, so there's less waste, mess and dirt.

Health and safety and accident prevention are major issues for decorators. WernerCo's climbing equipment, engineered for maximum safety and productivity at every height, includes stepladders, combination ladders, extension ladders, work platforms, access towers and platform steps.

## Watch and learn . . .

Sponsored again this year by Packexe, the MasterClass series was chock full of demonstrations, information and advice spanning various products and topics. From the Packexe Dispenser, Teknos' parquet floor range, and painting domestic and commercial floors, to demos for Kolorbond Original, Frog Tape and Big Wipes - the MasterClass team had it covered.

Dulux Decorator Centre addressed the challenge of keeping buildings looking better for longer, and shared tips on maximising social media to boost business. tesa had advice on masking walls and spraying woodwork, as well as masking woodwork and spraying walls. The Ladder Association got a grip on ladder safety, Repair Care offered solutions for the restoration and

tax, bookkeeping and cloud accounting, as well as the impact of COVID-19.

## Competition time!

There are always plenty of prizes to be won at the Paint and Dec Show, and this year's online event was no exception. Visitors could 'spin to win' with Dulux Decorator Centre, while Checkatrade offered one free six-month membership. Plus, one lucky visitor will be off on a family holiday to Lapland, courtesy of Brewers.

Also up for grabs were Ice Fusion roller kits from ProDec, a bundle of Bradite products worth over £200, a Peel Tec hamper, a 2.5L tin of Osmo's Satin Polyx-Oil, Axus Décor S-Tex jackets, a QTech3 HVLP + SilverPro gun, a Youngman Pro-Deck 5 in 1 combination ladder, a tesa Systainer filled with products from the new spray painting range, plus much more.

## Looking ahead

"This has been an unusually challenging year for everyone," says Terry Dullaway, "and while predictions and forecasts are difficult in such unprecedented conditions, demand for decorating products appears comparatively stable. Lockdown and travel restrictions have been encouraging redecoration, upgrades and extensions as people spend more time in their home environment. Many public sector and business improvement projects have also been going ahead.



maintenance of sustainable timber, and Brewers highlighted Albany Super Satin, Super Gloss and Super Primer Undercoat.

Specialist finishes - including blonde mahogany, painted brass, porto marble, verde marble, pitch pine and malachite - were tackled by painter Cait Whitson, and Ashdown Hurrey had timely advice regarding

"This demand will help to drive the decorating sector forward - in terms of trends, colours, finishes, and the tools to achieve them. By offering the latest look, more choice and superior quality, pro decorators can

boost their client base and their profit margins - even in these uncertain times, and even more so in the post-pandemic future."

## In the meantime . . .

Save the date! Next year's National Painting and Decorating Show will be back at Coventry's Ricoh Arena on 23rd and 24th November 2021.

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### **Bradite DP5**

Single pack Polyurethane Floor Paint. Interior or suitable exterior concrete, wood or steel floors requiring an economical, hard wearing, flexible floor coating with good chemical and excellent water resistance. Can be used with Bradite Low Slip Additive LS30 to provide additional under foot traction. Suitable for use over suitable prepared existing coatings including polyurethane and epoxies, not suitable for applying over asphalt, bitumen, epoxy tar, alkyd, chlorinated rubber or vinyl based paints

### **Bradite DP9 Floor-it**

Cross linking water based, low odour, interior and exterior floor coating, for use on concrete, steel and other absorbent mineral substrates resistant to diesel, motor oil, coolant fluid, various household chemicals and most types of tyres. Can be used with Bradite Low Slip Additive LS30 to provide additional under foot traction. Suitable for application over suitably prepared existing coatings including polyurethane, epoxies and chlorinated rubber.

### **Bradite PW74 Rapid**

Interior concrete, wood or steel floors requiring a tough, quick drying, hard wearing flexible floor coating with good chemical and excellent water resistance. Can be used with Bradite Low Slip Additive LS30 to provide additional under foot traction. Suitable for application over prepared existing coatings including polyurethane and epoxies, not suitable for applying over asphalt, bitumen,

### **Bradite CF22 Chlorinated Rubber**

A quick drying Interior or exterior floor paint with excellent water and good chemical and urine resistance, for use on concrete and steel floors subject to water immersion. Touch dry 1 hour, recoat 12 hours. Heavy traffic after 24 hours. Brush, roller or spray application. External floor surfaces should be above local water table and/or have intact DPM barrier present. All traffic regular fork lift and heavy vehicle use.

# Painting floors

James Burton of Bradite looks at what is involved when undertaking the painting of both domestic and industrial flooring.



Whether you're painting flooring in a domestic setting, a warehouse, a workshop, a school or hospital kitchen, an underground car park or something a little more challenging like an aircraft hangar or helipad, site preparation and product selection are the keys to success.

It is important to remember that not all floor paints are the same. Generic products include alkyds, polyurethanes, epoxies, single pack, twin pack, water-based, solvent-free, moisture cure, chlorinated rubber and more. They may be described as domestic, industrial, garage, hard wearing, tough and flexible.

For domestic use, you may require a quick drying, low odour product that is easy to apply such as a single pack, cross linking water-based paint. For a light industrial situation, the coating should be hard wearing, grease resistant and able to cope with light to medium traffic. A single pack polyurethane, or a water-based cross-linking product may work well.

For heavier traffic areas, such as a workshop floor where oil and grease are present, you could try a moisture cure, chlorinated rubber or twin pack epoxy. To achieve quick-drying and recoat times, try a water-based cross linking moisture cure or chlorinated rubber.

In a working environment, such as an area for food preparation, you should use an odour and solvent-free product. Consider water-based cross linking or twin pack water-based epoxies.

There are certain circumstances where the coating must resist specific chemicals. In these cases, identify the chemicals and check the coating suitability directly with the product manufacturer.

In settings where regular deep cleaning is required such as a brewery or kennels, consider chlorinated rubber or twin-pack epoxies.

### **Substrates**

Whether it's concrete, steel, timber, or something else, the substrate upon which



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the coating is to be applied is critical. When choosing a coating, consider whether the substrate is new or aged, inside or outside, or previously covered with a different coating.

New concrete should be left for a minimum of 30 days before painting to allow time for it to completely dry out. This can be checked by laying a rubber mat on the floor and leaving it overnight. When removed, if the floor is discoloured or condensation is still visible, then moisture is still present, and the floor should be left until fully cured.

New concrete should also be checked for laitance, a milky deposit on the surface usually caused by excess water in the mix. If painted, it could act as a crust and detach from the base causing premature failure of any coating. This can be removed by blasting or acid etching.

Power floated, shiny or unpainted nonporous concrete flooring should be thoroughly blast cleaned, ground, acid etched or primed using an adhesion promoting floor primer before applying floor paint. The correct application of screeds is important so check with the manufacturer to ensure the screed is suitable for overcoating.

The correct preparation of steel substrate

depends on whether it is ferrous or non-ferrous. Remove corrosion to brighten the steel, treating any stubborn spots or marks with rust converter before applying a primer. If previously painted, all coatings must be well adhered.

Turning to timber, softwood knots should be wiped and sealed using knotting compound or aluminium primer. Resinous hardwoods should be wiped with methylated spirits prior to priming with aluminium wood primer. The moisture content of the timber should be below 15%. Damp wood should never be painted as this will give rise to blistering, flaking and cracking. Damaged, rotten and darkened timber should be repaired prior to product application.

When covering previous and existing coatings, if possible, identify the existing product and check its compatibility with any new coatings. Existing coatings should be well adhered to. Any flaking, damaged or loose material should be removed back to a firm edge. Substrates should be clean, free of oil, grease and dust and completely dry before application of any product.

### Preparation

Clean with high pressure wash and sweep to remove all loose debris. Degrease using an industrial degreaser and rinse. Lightly abrade the surface, blast or acid etch, vacuum to remove all dust and ensure the substrate is completely dry prior to application of the new coating. With power floated floors, once the surface is cleaned, they can be prepared by vacuum blast, grinding or diamond grinding, acid etching or the use of adhesion primers.

### Application

With product selection and preparation now complete, we can move on to application. The method of application will depend on the product selected and the manufacturer's instructions. As with any application, it is important to understand the product's recoat, drying, and curing times. This information may be found on data sheets or provided by the product manufacturer.

Remember, most manufacturers will offer on-site and specification help. The old adage holds good: failure to prepare is preparing to fail!

## Bradite EW99 H D Floor and Wall Coating

Twin pack water based low odour epoxy coating for interior concrete, wood or steel floors requiring a tough, quick drying, hard wearing flexible floor coating with good chemical and excellent water resistance. Compatibility with existing coatings should be confirmed by preparing and painting a test patch, not suitable for applying over asphalt, bitumen, epoxy tar, alkyd, chlorinated rubber or vinyl based paints. Hard wearing twin pack epoxy suitable for use in hygiene, deep clean areas with little or no odour during application. High gloss tough finish resistant to mould and bacterial growth. Touch dry 3 hours, recoat 14 hours. All traffic regular fork lift and heavy vehicle use.

## Bradite EC88 Floor Coating

Twin pack solvent based epoxy coating for interior concrete, wood or steel floors requiring a tough, quick drying, hard wearing flexible floor coating with good chemical and excellent water resistance. This product is ideally suited for the refurbishment of fibreglass swimming pools, having excellent water immersion resistance, good chemical resistance and produces a surface that is easy to clean.

## Bradite CR27 Roadline Paint

A quick drying universal line marking paint for use on roads, runways, car parks and sports facilities. Reflectivity can be achieved by using proprietary glass beads. For internal & external suitable prepared asphalt, steel, concrete and other absorbent mineral substrates. Compatibility with existing coatings should be confirmed by preparing and painting a test patch. Touch dry 10 minutes, recoat 1 hour. All traffic regular fork lift and heavy vehicle use.



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# Oiling the wheels *of fortune*

Picture this: a professional decorator just finishing another great job. They are proud of the work they have done, but they look around and realise that the furniture and other wooden surfaces around the house are looking tired and in need of some attention. These surfaces are spoiling the finished effect. The customer might be time-poor or lacking in DIY skills, and at the point of quoting for the project, if only they had offered to take care of the woodwork at the same time, they could have created a far more finished look, whilst adding some welcome extra profit to the bottom line. Here Richard Bradley of Liberon looks at one of the oldest forms of wood finishing: the application of oils, which gives a natural, hardwearing finish with an unmistakable sheen and silky smoothness that customers will appreciate.



The great thing about the right oil is that it is highly resistant to moisture and heat. Easy to apply, it greatly enhances the colour of the timber, intensifies the grain pattern, and feeds timber safely, from well-worn rocking chairs to turned woodwork. Some specially blended oils even provide UV protection, making them ideal for helping to prevent wood from fading.

Where an oil is required to protect hard and soft woods both indoors and outdoors, it is recommended that a low viscosity option is selected, which allows deep penetration of the wood to feed, protect and enhance it. Select a blend of pure tung oil and natural oils with an added UV filter for protection against sunlight. Ideally, the oil chosen should have a resin content that affords protection against water, heat and alcohol plus added driers for quick drying.

Liberon's Superior Danish Oil protects against daylight and is alcohol, heat and food acid resistant, making it safe for use on kitchen surfaces. It is also ideal for doors and skirting boards. Outdoors it may be used on wooden garden furniture.

To prepare interior woodwork prior to applying this oil, ensure the surface is bare. Remove any wax finishes and any varnish finishes. Clean, dry and ensure the surface is dust free. To prepare exterior woodwork ensure the surface is clean, dry and free from decaying timber. Surface greying or mould should also be removed as this may cause blackening of the timber. If there is discolouration then treating with Liberon Wood Bleacher can help.

On interior jobs apply the oil with a brush or lint-free cotton cloth and allow to penetrate for five to ten minutes before wiping off the excess with a clean lint-free cloth. Allow to dry for a minimum of five hours, and apply more coats as required. It is recommended that a minimum of three coats are applied. For best results gently rub with Liberon's Ultra Fine Steel Wool (Grade 0000) between coats. Instead of steel wool use a fine sandpaper (400 grit or finer) on exterior Oak. In damp areas, such as kitchens and bathrooms, more coats will be required to ensure adequate protection. On exterior jobs the same application process applies. Four coats are recommended for minimum

# SCUFFS DON'T STAND A CHANCE

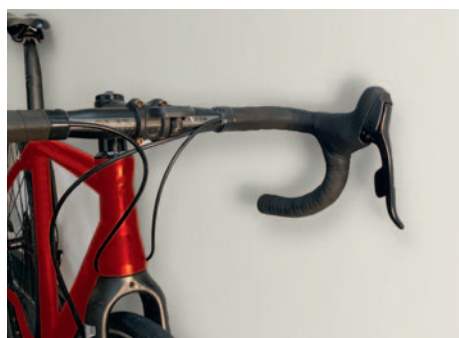
NEW

Dulux Decorator Centre is pleased to announce that NEW Dulux Trade Scuffshield Matt is now stocked both online and in-store.

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protection. This oil can darken some light grained timbers, therefore it is a good idea to test it on an unseen area first.

Where an oil is required to provide a hardwearing finish, and the surface in question comes into contact with food it is recommended that a premium, pure and natural oil be selected with no additives. Pure Tung Oil is the ideal solution. Look for a very high water resistance to ensure it is suitable for exterior use on items such as garden tables or barbeque surrounds. Liberon's Pure Tung Oil is also ideal for external oak furniture on which it helps to prevent black spot problems.

To prepare wood surfaces prior to applying this oil, firstly ensure they are bare. This means removing any wax finishes with Liberon's Wax and Polish Remover and any varnish finishes with Liberon's Fine Wood Stripper. Clean, dry and ensure the surface is dust-free.

To apply this oil, use a brush or lint-free cotton cloth. For ease of application dilute the first one or two coats with up to 50% white spirit. Allow the oil to penetrate for 20 to 30 minutes then wipe off the excess oil using a clean lint-free cloth. Allow to dry for 24 hours between coats. Apply further coats in the same way, reducing the amount of white spirit used with subsequent coats. Apply the last one or two coats undiluted. After the final coat has been applied, and the excess removed, leave for 24 hours and wipe over again to aid drying and remove

any oil that may have surfaced. It is recommended that a minimum of four coats are applied, and more coats will be required for porous or external surfaces. Again, for best results gently rub with Liberon's Ultra Fine Steel Wool (Grade 0000) between coats. Instead of steel wool use a fine sandpaper (400 grit or finer) on exterior Oak. Leave for a few days before use to allow this oil to dry fully. Again, testing the oil on an unseen surface is recommended.

When looking for an oil that can be used on interior wood and turned woodwork that will really nourish and enhance the colour of the wood, seek out a blended option containing hardwearing oils and resins for a lasting and water-resistant finish. Liberon's Finishing Oil has a resin content that enables protection not only against water but heat and alcohol too. By applying extra coats of this oil, resin build-up is facilitated, which means that a variety of finishes can be achieved, including matt, satin or gloss. Seek out a low viscosity oil to ensure deep penetration, that makes it ideal for all types of bare wood. If working in kitchens and bathrooms it is recommended to choose a water-resistant formula.

Preparing the wood before using this oil is the same process as that mentioned above. To use it, the container must be shaken well before beginning, then a coat can be applied using a brush or lint-free cotton cloth. The oil should be allowed to penetrate for up to ten minutes, then all the excess should be wiped off with a clean lint-free

cloth, before the surface dries enough to become sticky. Allow to dry for a minimum of five hours, and apply more coats as required. A minimum of three coats is recommended. The more coats applied the higher the sheen and the more durable the finish will be. As for the other two oils mentioned above, for best results gently rub with Liberon Ultra Fine Steel Wool (Grade 0000) between coats.

For further information about Liberon and the company's extensive range of woodcare products, visit [www.liberon.co.uk](http://www.liberon.co.uk).







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# Why the feel of your brush is so important

In research conducted recently by Hamilton, 'the feel' of the brush ranked number 4 in the top ten most important factors when choosing a brush. But what is 'the feel' and why is it so important?

Put simply, 'the feel' refers to the way the brush feels in your hand. Think about it – this tool is in your hand for eight hours a day – it's like an extension of your arm! If it feels uncomfortable in anyway, your mind will not be on the job, focus will be lost and its likely that the finished result will suffer. Not great in an industry where your reputation matters.

Even more worryingly, aches and pains can develop leading to more serious conditions like repetitive strain injury (RSI).

So, both financially and health-wise, ensuring that your brush has the feel is incredibly important.

## Can you feel it?

Sarah Coussens of Hamilton said, 'Talking to professional painters and decorators for our research highlighted the ways in which the feel of the brush can impact them and their jobs.

'Comfort was a big issue with many stating that without comfort, there was little control – and reduced control had a negative effect on their confidence in the finish. Many compared it to holding a pen, in that the brush has to be balanced in the hand, easy to use and allow a flow to develop whilst they are painting.

'In fact, one respondent said, 'The feel is crucial...your brush is an extension of you... and displays your talent...you couldn't be a good footballer with a burst ball!' This statement clearly demonstrates how passionately you professional decorators feel about the results that they deliver to their customers and how they look at every aspect of their tools to ensure they can achieve the best outcome on their jobs.'



## Avoiding injury

The repetitive movements that are part of the painting process can present a hazard, especially when your tools don't 'fit' you properly. Repetitive strain injury (RSI) is a real issue for some.

Several areas of the upper body can be affected but pain in the hands and wrists is most likely for professional decorators. Symptoms that start off as a mild ache can quickly develop into more severe pain and swelling requiring medication, physiotherapy and extended periods of rest, all of which may impact your business.

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Martin Cole,  
Coles Decor

**AkzoNobel**





Advice on the NHS website includes ensuring that all aspects of your workplace are as comfortable as possible and that includes the feel of your brushes being right for you.

### Hamilton knows

Hamilton invests heavily in its research and

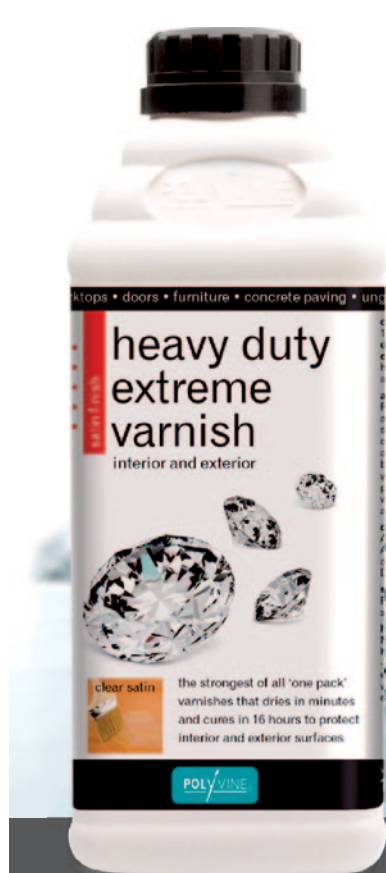
development, employing not only designers, materials specialists and chemists but also consulting with its professional decorating customers to make sure they deliver the high-quality range of brushes that Hamilton is renowned for.

From the filaments, to the ferrule to the handle, Hamilton carefully considers how each component will work for the decorator, aiming for not for finish but also a comfortable experience – the essence of ‘the feel’.

Well-balanced beavertail wooden handles that sit perfectly in the hand or longer handles that are easy to hold, like a pencil, came top in their research. Customers said that they give great control when cutting in or painting in tricky spaces and are designed to satisfy discerning decorators.

Sarah concluded, ‘Working closely with professional decorators gives us real insight into what they want and need in a brush. And whilst describing ‘the feel’ might sometimes be elusive, we like to think that we have captured its essence within our brushes.

For more information on Hamilton’s entire range of brushes, visit [www.hamiltonexpression.com](http://www.hamiltonexpression.com) or call 01527 575441.



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# Trousers for *females*

ProDec has designed decorator's trousers  
for females



Time and time again we heard the same issues; ProDec had been involved in some lively debates over the years about the lack of choice for females when it came to painters' workwear. When Elise Colledge began working on the ProDec clothing range - a female product manager with a female manager in turn - it seemed an opportunity missed that there wasn't a dedicated women's option.

Recently there has been a surge in the uptake of apprenticeships in painting and decorating by females, some colleges reporting an increase of 30%. ProDec already has the leading brand of affordable painter's workwear, so having an opportunity to create a range for women fitted the range perfectly.

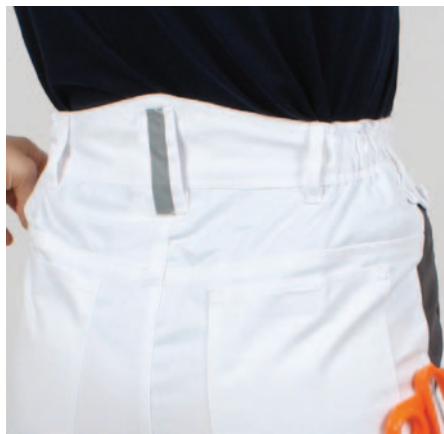
Some frank discussions and a listening exercise made the team conclude that they needed to start again when looking to solve the problem for so many female decorators coming into the profession. They looked at the key issues: "Options available but expensive for a pair of trousers I replace every couple of months", "Very little women's workwear on the market that's affordable", "I wore the men's option previously and they were great, but on the women's range they removed all the useful parts of them, like the holster pockets and hammer loop, which is super insulting" - all comments posted on an online discussion ProDec instigated in early 2019.

This is how the ProDec Advance Women's Painter's Trousers was created: by women, for women.

Elise commented, "We looked at the features needed: why should a female need less functionality than on the male product? Next, price: we wanted to make the offer no more expensive than the male option, and we looked at fit - one of the key frustrations. We knew that higher waisted trousers worked best - no one wants to be uncomfortable when they're working - with a ladies' fit around the hips and waist."

"We really felt the time was right to produce something for women to be able to afford," Elise expanded. "Options were available but some of the costs were out of reach when these women were just starting out. We designed something specifically for women and worked with a number of women decorators to test, refine and test again over a period of time to ensure they were right."

ProDec Advance Women's Painter's Trousers are available in selected stores and online. They feature the same stylish two-tone design as the men's version, with a stain resistant coating to keep them looking great, high waisted with elastic for added comfort and triple stitched seams for strength. Available in sizes 8-18 with a standard leg length, each pair includes a Wipe-Mate, an innovative, washable patch to wipe hands which attaches to buttons at the side. The ProDec Pouch-Mate - an attachable pouch large enough to hold a paper hanging brush and other tools - can be purchased separately.



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# Now is not the time to compromise on quality

## Choosing the perfect colour for your customer

**By Michael Van Harmelen,  
Senior Brand Manager for  
Armstead**

This year has been tough for the trade. There's no escaping that.

The impact of the first nationwide lockdown is still being felt by many professionals, while new restrictions are likely to cause further disruption.

The result is that now, more than ever, finding ways to be cost effective is becoming a priority.

But cutting costs can come at a risk to the most valuable asset you have - your reputation.

Hard won and easily lost - protecting it is vital, especially in this current climate, where competition is fierce.

That's where Armstead can help.

We're committed to producing high-quality trade performance products at competitive prices - meaning your reputation is safe in our hands.

Our advanced formulation, developed by AkzoNobel experts, gives you the tools to do a good job, while keeping costs down.

And that's so vital as the trade continues to build back from the disruptions earlier this year.

If a poor product lets you down, that's your livelihood on the line. If the finish isn't up to scratch that can spell very bad news.

Word travels quickly - especially online - a poor review of your work can see your new business pipeline dry up overnight.

And no one can afford that at the moment.

That's why you can rely on the Armstead



range. It has some real muscle behind it from the experts who also produce brands including Dulux, Cuprinol and Hammerite, that pushes paint performance to new levels.

For example, our Armstead Durable Matt shares the same class one standard of scrubbability and stain resistance as premium brands, giving you a quality, durable finish you can rely on to last.

It wins plaudits for its performance offering the opacity and coverage that a pro is looking for.

Making smart choices on products can be critical for sectors where budgets are tight but high quality is still required, like social housing.

It's equally great for decorators who operate in the rental market - where properties get redecorated every three years. It allows

these homes to remain looking better for longer in a cost-effective way.

We understand that people like to stick to what they know, especially in the current climate.

But we find that those who give us a try - stay with us for the long haul.

And that covers the whole spectrum of the industry - from sole traders to small decorating firms, large contractors and beyond.

The fact of the matter is there's no compromise with Armstead - it helps you bring your A game every time.

For more information on the Armstead range visit:

[www.duluxtradepaintexpert.co.uk/en/brands/armstead-trade](http://www.duluxtradepaintexpert.co.uk/en/brands/armstead-trade)

*This feature is sponsored by Armstead*



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At this time of year, the weather exacerbates damp which can lead to unsightly and unhealthy mould and mildew on paintwork. And with the added threat of coronavirus demanding exceptional levels of cleanliness inside buildings, your customers will be looking for more than just a fresh coat of paint. Crown Paints explains how specialist, premium paints can provide professional decorators with the tools they need.

In the cold winter months, a lack of natural ventilation and condensation can contribute to an increase in mould and mildew appearing on walls and ceilings. On most painted surfaces, simply washing away the marks is not only ineffective, as the mould spores will soon reappear, but constant cleaning can also damage the paint finish.

Traditionally, paints with a mid-sheen finish such as an acrylic eggshell would be the go-to choice as they can tolerate being washed and wiped. The development of high-performance paints such as Crown Trade's Clean Extreme range has opened up a new world of design flexibility by also offering a matt emulsion that can not only be wiped and washed, but can be repeatedly scrubbed without diminishing the appearance of the paint finish.

For the ultimate protection against mould and mildew, look for a paint that contains a fungicide to help prevent mould growth on the paint film. This is an in-built part of Crown Trade's Clean Extreme Mould Inhibiting paint, which means it can't be washed or even scrubbed off. It is also highly resistant to stains so that any unsightly marks can be easily and effectively covered.

High traffic indoor environments have

# Hygienic *paint solutions*



always presented a challenge in terms of their maintenance cycles; the COVID-19 outbreak has only served to further heighten these considerations. There is evidence that the virus can linger on surfaces, which may contribute to the increased risk factor of having groups of people indoors.

Scrubable paints, like Crown Trade's Clean Extreme Scrubbable Matt, have been formulated so that they can be repeatedly scrubbed over longer periods without any detriment to the appearance – this is achieved by minimising the amount of paint film that is removed each time.

Based upon the ISO 11998 testing method, which is the industry standard for determining the wet scrub resistance of dry paint film, Clean Extreme Scrubbable Matt achieved a Class 1 rating and has a durability level of 10,000 scrubs. This translates to a 400 per cent increase in resistance to wet scrubbing when compared to conventional matt emulsions, meaning that the paint will stand up well to the repeated cleaning cycles that will be required to keep buildings hygienically clean and Covid-safe.

The science behind the formulation of durable paints has come a long way too, with some products, such as Crown Trade's

Clean Extreme Anti Bacterial paint, offering additional protection against bacteria thanks to the use of silver ion technology, which not only inhibits the growth of any bacteria that comes into contact with the surface but also prevents bacteria from multiplying.

In the past, anti-bacterial paints would have lost efficacy over time due to the organic or chemical anti-bacterial agents migrating to the surface and being washed away during cleaning. Improved technology ensures that anti-bacterial protection can't be washed off no matter how many times the surface is scrubbed clean – just like the in-built mould inhibiting fungicide of the Clean Extreme range.

For more information and to find your nearest stockist, please visit [www.crowntrade.co.uk](http://www.crowntrade.co.uk),





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# Decorating solutions

from Axis Decor

## Dec-X Painter's Caulk – Stretches as joints move

The latest addition to our product range comes in the form of the Dec-X Painter's Caulk; a dual purpose interior/exterior caulk that stretches as joints move to prevent gap recurrence.

Its special, water-based formula make it both easy to clean and resistant to mould. It effortlessly closes up gaps and cracks and has exceptional adherence to most substrates. It can also be painted over using a variety of paint and does not require the use of a primer.

It comes in a Bright White colour and is suitable for use in gaps between skirting/coving and walls/ceilings, around frames/architraves, in brickwork, stone, concrete and cladding.

It can be painted over within an hour, but since this is dependent on the type of paint and various ambient conditions, it's best to leave the caulk for four hours before painting, to be on the safe side.

For information on your nearest stockist, go to [www.axisdecor.com/distributors](http://www.axisdecor.com/distributors)



## Brewers *brief*

### How to Help Your Client Choose Colour



Choosing colour is deeply personal and can be the difference between your client loving the end result or not. It's therefore always best to have a few handy hints and tips to help them make the best colour decision. There are a number of tools at your disposal, including free colour cards at your local Brewers Decorator Centre. These are great to hand to your customer at the initial step to give them inspiration and discover which shades they are drawn to. If your client has indicated that they'd like a neutral/white alongside a deeper shade, recommend they choose a neutral from a complimentary colour family for a really cohesive scheme. Once again, colour cards are a really useful tool for putting shades alongside each other to test the compatibility. If they have already chosen a pattern for the room, such as soft furnishings or a wallpaper then a good place to start is to pick one or two of the shades to use across the walls and woodwork. Brewers has a colour matching service available, providing the sample is larger than a 50p piece. Finally, always ensure that your client has considered the light of the room, which has different tones depending on which way it's facing and can dramatically affect the chosen colour. For this reason, it's especially important to ensure you get a colour sample pot and request the client checks the colour at the times the room will be used. To find your local Brewers Decorator's Centre or find out more about what we can offer, visit [brewers.co.uk](http://brewers.co.uk).



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## Snickers workwear new Polartec® Power Stretch® Jackets and fleeces

The versatile FLEXIWork full-stretch jackets, deliver a tight, body-hugging fit with efficient moisture transportation and durable shape retention plus great freedom of movement. There's also long Johns to match for full body insulation.

The AllroundWork fleeces and bodywarmers – made from 80% recycled polyester – are packed warmth and comfort to keep your body warm or comfortably cool when you most need it.

Fashionable and functional, they combine practicality with street-smart looks and the right kind of sustainable choice.



## Ronseal Trade adds yacht varnish



Ronseal Trade's new yacht varnish is a clear, solvent based varnish which delivers reliable curing regardless of environmental conditions. The advantage of the new product is that it is rainproof in just four hours

and can be re-coated in as little as eight hours – around half the re-coat time of a typical solvent varnish.

Ronseal Trade Yacht Varnish is available in gloss and satin finishes and is suitable for all smooth planed exterior wood, including both new and previously varnished surfaces. It is therefore an ideal coating to protect and enhance wooden doors and window frames which resists cracking, peeling and blistering as well as accidental scratches. It is also waterproof and protects the wood from the damaging effects of the sun as well as highlighting the timber's natural colour and preventing it from greying over time.

## Gekoe Floor-Gripping Barrier Sheet

The Gekoe is a premium floor-gripping, paint barrier sheet that protects floors from impact and scratches.

It features a rubber-embossed bottom layer which keeps the sheet firmly in place, reducing the risk of potential accidents happening. Whilst the top layer is impermeable to anything so no liquids will pass through onto the surface below.

The sheet is extra strong, flexible, machine washable and completely re-usable. It can even be cleaned with something as simple as a wipe. It comes in 2 sizes; 0.91mx3.7m and 1.2mx1.2m.

Full details of the Gekoe sheet and the rest of our products can be found at: [www.axisdecor.com](http://www.axisdecor.com)



## Sanding with LED

The new PLANEX LHS 2 225 EQI long-reach sander from Festool has a LED light ring surround highlighting unevenness when sanding, preventing the need for costly reworking. The laborious installation and transportation of light sources is therefore also no longer necessary. The eccentric sanding motion ensures a premium surface quality – without any sanding marks. Ensuring ergonomics whilst working on walls and ceilings was the focus of the product development team: With adjustable extraction, a variable working length and a clever T-handle. The result: Comfortable handling for sanding without fatigue.





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## Scuff resistant Dulux EasyCare+

AkzoNobel has launched Dulux EasyCare+, which uses Scuff Resist technology to form durable matt coating, with high mechanical strength.

Initially launched in Poland, it uses micro-spherical fillers with regular shapes. They fill in the spaces between the other paint components to ensure a smooth coating structure with the highest stain and scuff resistance. This prevents particles of plastic, rubber or wood from settling on the surface.



## Parex's new adhesive for render bead applications



A new ready-to-use, high-strength Render Bead Adhesive from Parex is capable of bonding to a wide range of substrates.

Based on new technology, Parex's Render Bead Adhesive is the first hybrid polymer grab adhesive especially created for the installation of external

render beads. With the ability to bond to almost all materials, in both wet and dry conditions, this high-strength adhesive can be used for bonding render beads to porous and non-porous materials including bricks, blockwork, stone, render boards, plasterboard, concrete, PVC/stainless/aluminium beads, stonewall and EPS.

## Embossed relief tiles



Ceramique Internationale has responded to the growing demand for textured tiles with the launch of a gently embossed relief collection.

Greco is a collection of cost-effective glazed tiles with a classical mild marble effect, including a 25 x 40cm wall tile available in two muted tones of Light Grey and Light Beige. The range also features gently contrasting 33 x 33cm glazed porcelain floor tiles.

Completing the range is a 3D wall tile which is embossed with an eye-catching design of seven floral and geometric relief patterns, combining both light and darker tones. Perfect for providing complete co-ordination and creating a statement accent wall, the feature tile is 25 x 40cm and is available in both a beige and grey mix.

## Hamilton's performance cutting in brush

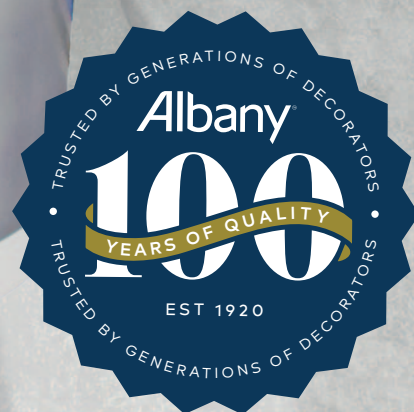


The Performance 2" Cutting-in brush from Hamilton is designed to deliver good paint pick up and spreading rate, and, with its angled profile, is ideal for precision cutting in and is especially effective on hard to reach architraving where awkward angles are often found.

Ideal for water-based paints, the brush is made using high quality synthetic filament giving good paint application. With a short, quality wooden handle for comfortable use, it features a rust resistant stainless-steel ferrule, is easy clean and vapour box compatible.



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## DC5 – OLFA's Blade Holster

The OLFA DC5 Blade Holster for the paperhanger has a pocket/belt clip which snugly fits onto your belt or trouser pocket. Its compact size makes it convenient to keep at all times and its storage section means that blades are stored safely away. Its mechanism makes it easy to snap blades safely without using pliers or fingers. It discourages the use of a blunt blade that would tear wallpaper.



## Geocel launches new MS Polymer range

Geocel has launched THE WORKS PRO sealant and adhesive. THE WORKS PRO X high grab adhesive, formulated to ensure trade professionals achieve the best quality results, without the risk of callbacks.



THE WORKS PRO is a multi-use sealant and adhesive that can seal, fill, and bond virtually any surface, wet or dry – inside or out. THE WORKS PRO is available in a 'whiter' white and an improved clear formulation that can be over-painted. Fast curing, it achieves results that last.

## HB42 Ultimate Solvent:

The HB42 Ultimate Solvent 'All-In-One' is the trade's answer to safely removing sealants and adhesives and other stubborn deposits. The powerful HB42 Ultimate Solvent is fast acting on dirt, chewing gum, tar, wax, adhesive labels and even splashes of cement. The ideal partner to the HB42 Sealant Range, the product is for professional preparation work, ensuring the maximum adhesion and long-term performance. The fast acting spray evaporates, leaving no oily residue and is non-aggressive, safe to use on virtually all materials and can be used before applying HB42 Sealants.



## Spray for Univar



Univar Specialty Consumables has entered a partnership with industrial paint manufacturer WRX Trade Paints. This new partnership sees Univar Specialty Consumables add the new range of spray paints to its portfolio with immediate effect. WRX Paints are a manufacturer of high-quality paints for professionals and hobbyists. Their range of acrylic spray paints can be used on various surfaces including wood, metal, uPVC and plastic. The spray nozzle produces a 50-50 paint gas mix with every spray to give excellent coverage and a professional finish.

## Mirka's new dual voltage LEROS

Mirka UK has launched a dual voltage Mirka® LEROS to provide a flexible, convenient tool for decorators working at different site locations, making light work of wall and ceiling sanding. The two-in-one 110v and 230v lightweight Mirka® LEROS sander has a brushless motor and incorporates a head with 180-degree flexibility, and a 5mm random orbital movement, making it extremely user-friendly.

The operator can also work very close to corners thanks to the sanding head and backing pad design. Due to the random orbital movement, the Mirka® LEROS responds precisely to the operator's movements making the sanding process easy. In addition, it creates a smoother, better finish.

Maintenance of the tool is minimised as there are no carbon brushes to be changed. When combined with Mirka's dust-free net abrasives and suitable dust extraction, the Mirka® LEROS provides dust-free sanding, making the working environment cleaner and healthier.



# Choosing the perfect colour *for your customer*

Nicola Holmes, Skills Development Consultant at Dulux Academy introduces Dulux Colour of the Year 2021 and discusses how Dulux Trade is building decorators' confidence with colour.

Colour is central to any decorating project - whether it's a residential or commercial job, we know colour choice is at the heart of a decorators' planning.

## **Dulux Colour of the Year 2021**

In September, we revealed our Colour of the Year for 2021 as Brave Ground™, a warm and grounding shade, with four supporting palettes Earth, Trust, Timeless and Expressive, reflective of a need for a comforting environment.

All the palettes have been designed to make the use of Colour of the Year simple and help you confidently select or recommend the best colour schemes for your clients' needs.

Each palette is made up of complementary colours, chosen by our Dulux colour experts to work perfectly together, so you or your customer can choose a scheme that will be ideal for any room.

By teaming Brave Ground™ with these ready-made colour combinations and using simple paint effects, you can help your customer transform the look and feel of a space in many different ways.

Colours from the Timeless palette can allow you to create a balanced and open space, with classic colours that are the perfect neutrals.

Trust colours are warm and welcoming, allowing you to create inviting social spaces for customers, while colours from the Earth palette are natural, bringing the outside in.



And the Expressive palette features bolder, stand out shades that can add verve and vitality

to a room, ideal for customers who want brave, striking colours and strong accents.

## **Get creative with colour**

Confident colour schemes deserve to be used in the best way possible, so think about different ways colour can be used on walls or trim. It pays to think outside the box and not conform to just a feature wall when using Brave Ground™ and the palettes.

Why not paint a ceiling a different colour than white, paint skirting boards in a tonal colour or try the window reveals in a contrasting hue?

As many people are working from home or using their homes in different ways this year, you could carve out a corner in a room by partially painting two walls in the same colour, creating an instant visual cue that will make one room multi-functional, giving your customer a dedicated work space or play area.

Or try adding a new dimension to bare walls by cutting across them with sharp lines, circles or arches, for a playful, modern and original space.

## **Finding the perfect finish**

Choosing the right paint finish is as important as the colour scheme. That's why Dulux Trade is constantly innovating to offer the widest range of products that ensures you have the right paint for the right task.

You can get Brave Ground™ and the colours in the palettes in a range of products, from matt and eggshell, to satin and gloss, so wherever the customer wants to use the colours, you can achieve the perfect finish.

Boosting your colour confidence further

This year, the launch of Dulux Colour of the Year is also supported by the launch of a new Dulux Academy Live colour workshop dedicated to the 2021 ColourFutures™ palettes.

The session is specifically designed to help improve colour knowledge and allow you to engage customers confidently in conversations around colour.

## **Be brave in 2021...**

So, why not demonstrate your expertise and inspire your customers to be brave by using Dulux Colour of the Year 2021.

For more information, visit:

<https://www.duluxtradepaintexpert.co.uk/content/dulux-colour-of-the-year-2021> or [www.duluxacademy.co.uk](http://www.duluxacademy.co.uk).

*This feature is sponsored by Dulux Trade*





## Ground protection

Ground-Guards has launched an advanced and cost-effective ground protection system that provides builder services professionals with improved usability and is suitable for a wide range of temporary surface applications.

Made from 100% recycled PVC, Ground-Guard's new FastCover PLUS is an extension of the popular FastCover range and features interlocking flanges for improved ease of use and a trip-free surface. Lighter and easier to install, FastCover PLUS is a versatile ground protection solution that is suitable for a range of tasks, from surface protection for block paving and interior floors, to temporary protection for paths and walkways during site works and permanent flooring in factories and warehouses.

Weighting just 14.5kg per mat, FastCover PLUS can be laid directly onto grass, footpaths or stone bases, featuring a superior anti-slip surface for maximum health and safety, whilst built-in hand holes make the product easy to handle and ensure that lifting and transporting the system is simple.

## Rust-busting metal paint

Hammerite Ultima is suitable for use on all types of metal and can also be applied directly onto any metal surface – as well as rust – without the need for a primer.

The key innovation lies in its quick-drying formulation, which was developed as part of AkzoNobel's Waterway initiative – a multi-year strategic program designed to lead the decorative paints market towards using more water-based product ranges.

In many cases decorators don't know exactly what type of metal they're dealing with, which can create confusion. With Hammerite Ultima, they will always have the right answer.



## tesa introduce New Easy Cover® products

Building on the success of their professional craftsmen product offering, tesa has announced the launch of a new paint spraying range which will include brand new tesa Easy Cover® products to provide all the essentials for spraying with confidence on both internal and external jobs.



## Hultafors new range of screwdrivers

Hultafors Tools has launched a new range of Screwdrivers with VDE Screwdrivers specially designed for electricians – including tested and certified SL/PZ and VOLTAGE TESTER models - and over 80 other SLOTTED, PHILIPS, POZIDRIV, TORX® STUBBY Screwdrivers, plus Hex Drivers and Bit Holders that can be bought individually or in sets – or by size - to suit the jobs you have in hand.

Researched and developed for professional use, the long rubber-coated handles ensures grip for precision and maximal transmission of power. The handle is made from durable PPC plastic with a coating of age-resistant and easy-to-grip rubber.

The permanent marking of type and size on the top as well as the handle's colour make it easy for the user to select the right screwdriver. Blades are manufactured from high-quality hardened steel for long life. The handles have a hole for hanging or securing with a design prevents the screwdriver from rolling on inclined surfaces.





# PALETTE WOOD DYE



## Quick-drying dye ideal for colouring interior woodwork

- Colours can be mixed to vary the shade
- Light stability for excellent colour retention
- Easily absorbed for both soft and hard wood
- Specialist formula minimises raising of wood grain
- Water based formula is quick drying

Can also be  
mixed with  
Liberon Natural  
Finish Varnishes  
for a single  
application



### Palette Wood Dye Colours\*



1. Medium Oak, 2. Dark Oak, 3. Tudor Oak, 4. Georgian Mahogany, 5. Victorian Mahogany,  
6. Antique Pine, 7. Golden Pine, 8. Teak, 9. Walnut, 10. Yew, 11. White, 12. Light Oak 13. Ebony

\*not all colours available in all sizes.



**SIZES**  
250ml | 500ml | 5L



**DRYING TIME**  
2HRS MIN



**COVERAGE**  
1L = 8-16M<sup>2</sup>



**GROUP**  
A V33 Group Company



visit [liberon.co.uk](http://liberon.co.uk) for more

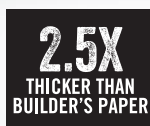


# TRIMACO X•BOARD PAINT + REMODEL

- PAINTING + DECORATING
- HOME IMPROVEMENT
- BUILDING
- TILING
- CONCRETE



## SPILL BLOCK® LEAK RESISTANT PROTECTION



X•Board Paint + Remodel is breathable to allow floors to continue the curing process. This easy-to-use painter board lays flat when rolled out and our Spill Block® technology ensures no paint, mud or water will get through to your surface. X•Board will last for the endurance of the job and is proudly made in the USA.

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