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P R E S S I N F O R M A T I O N

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Ref. IP107



NEW IN-MOULD PRIMER ON HELICOPTER PANELS

A new low VOC in-mould coating for composites has been adopted on airframe panels for helicopters made by HAL of Bangalore, India.

The coating, known as System-Two, from Indestructible Paint Ltd., Birmingham, will be used on all versions of the ALH (Advanced Light Helicopter) commercial and military helicopters produced in the year 2005-6.

Indestructible's 'System-Two' is a 2-pack epoxy primer (ref. IP50015) specially formulated for application 'in-mould' onto fibre-reinforced composite mouldings.

Its use results in much improved production rates and reduced labour costs by eliminating the hand filling of porous areas normally associated with composite panels.

Application is by spray to the inside surface of the mould. Ip50015 is then cured by air-drying or force dry before the fibres are laid-up and resin injected.

On removal, the primer coat will have become an integral part of the total moulding, its smooth surface mirroring the surface of the mould.

The final high quality result is obtained following a light sand and application of a suitable finish, either as a single coat or clear over base. Ideal types of finishing materials for 'System-Two' are polyurethanes or acrylic-urethanes, depending on final use of the composite component.

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