

# Rockhard

Issue 9 Winter 2005

The Indestructible Paint Newsletter

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## Comment.....

### A word from the sales team

It seems incredible that another year has passed since we were asked for an update for inclusion in the winter newsletter.

2005 has been extremely busy for us here at Indestructible. Going against the trend in the surface coatings industry, the company has seen rapid growth achieved across all areas of the business, resulting in a sales increase of around 20%.

Of particular note are our successes providing engine coatings for Turbomeca in France, and airframe coatings for the composite structure of the ALH (Advanced Light Helicopter) built by Hindustan Aeronautics in India. These two stories are detailed in this newsletter.

With forthcoming changes to legislation, taking effect in 2007, the company's development teams are working apace to reduce the environmental impact of its coatings. This is a major area of work, but will benefit all.

Alan Teague, our chief chemist achieved the milestone of 40 years service to the UK surface coatings industry; another story detailed below.

At Indestructible Paint we look forward to 2006 with confidence, especially in view of the more encouraging statistics on UK manufacturing forecasts recently published.

Graham Armstrong

## New 'in-mould' primer for helicopters

Following adoption of a 'post-mould' primer and finish from Indestructible Paint Ltd, Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd, of Bangalore, India, is carrying out production trials on Indestructible's new low VOC 'in-mould' coating for composites.

It is planned to adopt the new material, called System-Two, in the near future on composite airframe panels for both military and commercial production of the company's Advanced Light Helicopter

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

The process involves spray application of primer to the inside surface of the mould. Curing, by air-drying or force dry then takes place 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.



# Aviation polish

Wadpol, a wax based polish, designed specifically for and widely used by the aerospace industry, is now being manufactured by Indestructible Paint Ltd.



Wadpol was originally produced by Decosol Ltd.

Following a fire at its premises in early 2005 the company decided to rationalise its product range and concentrate on its primary business, the production of automotive cleaners and polishes.

As Indestructible Paint's largest business sector is the aerospace industry, it was appropriate for the company to buy Wadpol and its associated products from Decosol.

Complying with DTD900-4438, Wadpol is widely used by the aerospace industry for polishing wing leading edges and removing stains and exhaust deposits from engine cowlings.

It is also used, for example, on aircraft flown by the Red Arrows aerobatic team and on Sea King helicopters.

Wadpol has also been successfully used in other industries. For example, it is the preferred polish for a restorer of brass bedsteads.

## Forty years in the paint industry



Doug Norton (left) making the presentation to Alan Teague

In a short ceremony at the Birmingham offices of Indestructible Paint Ltd, the company's Chief Chemist, Alan Teague, was presented with a gold watch by Chairman Doug Norton, in recognition of long service.

Alan, who recently completed 40 years service in the paint industry, originally worked with Doug at Ault & Wiborg Ltd in 1965 as a trainee chemist, when Doug was Chief Chemist at that company.

Following its closure, Alan moved to Permoglaze as Technical Service Manager before joining Indestructible Paint as a research chemist in 1993.

When he left Ault & Wiborg, in 1978, Doug Norton acquired the name 'Indestructible Paint' from the company. Immediately afterwards he established the present company of that name.



Alan with the gold watch and Champagne

## Snippets....

### New approvals

- **Hamilton Sundstrand** have approved Rockhard coatings to HS 4675, type 5.
- **Honeywell** have approved IP9136R1 A graphite dry film lubricant to PCS5022.
- IP1897, a low temperature (- 70°C) capable intumescent material to LA-P-164 has been approved by **Goodrich**.
- **Standard Aero approved** IP1949 high temperature organic sealcoat.

### Sophisticated lubricant

Engine manufacturers and airlines are now using a sophisticated dry film lubricant, PL470 from Indestructible Paint Ltd, for fast on-wing overhaul/repair work on aircraft engines.

Developed in conjunction with major aero engine manufacturers, PL470 enables certain critical maintenance operations to be carried out without removal of engines, thereby significantly lowering costs.

PL470 is the latest of a comprehensive range of dry film lubricants produced by the company.

# Indestructible win Turbomeca contract

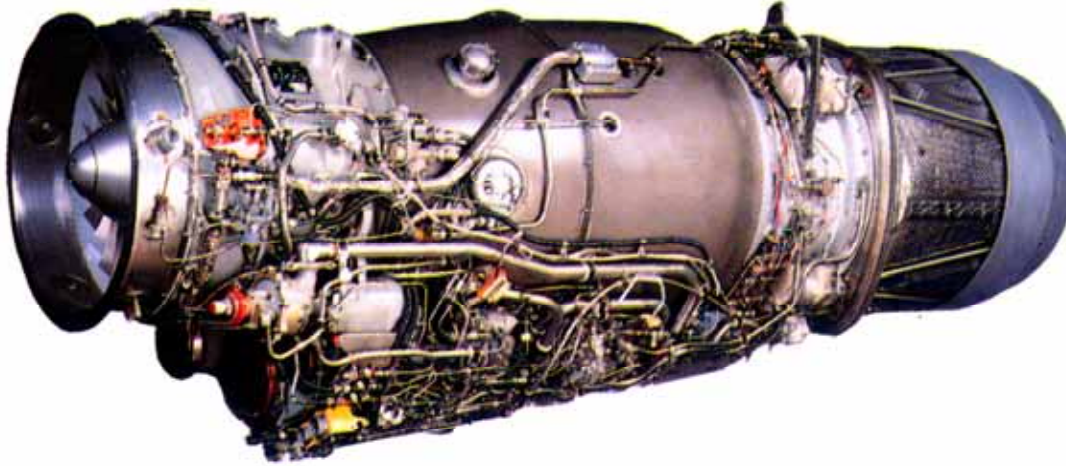
Following intensive evaluation, Turbomeca the French aero engine company, is the latest to adopt a number of specialised aerospace coatings from Indestructible Paint Ltd.

Providing coatings that meet at least six Turbomeca performance and

application specifications, Indestructible is now a Turbomeca main supplier for these products, and replaces previous suppliers.

The coatings, applied in accordance with Turbomeca specification CT6010, include: -

- A low toluene and free of xylene; clear magnesium protective coating to: - Turbomeca LB547.
- Low VOC xylene, toluene and chromate free air drying primers and finishing colours for use at temperatures up to 180° C to: - Turbomeca LB568.
- Ten chromate free stoving colours and primers for magnesium and high temperature use to: - Turbomeca LB569.
- Ipcote sacrificial inorganic aluminium coatings to: - Turbomeca LB598.
- Rockhard erosion resistant coatings to: - Turbomeca LB714.



The materials will be used on a range of engines including the Adour, Arriel, Astazou RTM322 and others.

Used variously in Eurocopter models such as the Puma and Tiger, and aircraft including the Goshawk and AV8B, these engines are also used to power SNCF trains.

As a direct result of these approvals, Indestructible have received enquires from Messier Bugatti, Eurocopter and other French aerospace companies.

**Adour engine**

## Bring-on the strippers

Removal of high performance aerospace coatings has long presented problems, while Rockhard coatings, because of their very high chemical resistance, have always proved particularly difficult.

Only relatively hazardous chemical strippers are normally effective for this purpose.

The environmental issues associated with these materials are well known and increasingly tough legislation has resulted in many traditional materials being withdrawn.

Much research into more environmentally friendly methods, both in the UK and Europe, has taken place and two new processes are now available through Indestructible Paint Ltd.

A new environmentally friendly non-methylene chloride stripper - **Rockhard EF Paint Stripper, 300-100-001** - effectively strips even fully cured Rockhard epoxy-phenolic and epoxy-amine coatings.

This product is now available from stock.

**In addition**, a very effective development in dry media stripping, using wheat husks, a soft, biodegradable stripping media, has also become available through Indestructible.

This development, by a French company, is being handled by Indestructible's agent in Germany; Herr Ludger Gierse of Industrie Marketing.

Technostrip, a low dust blasting technology, features high projection speed, low pressure and fast recycling.

The process will remove all kinds of coatings including PTFE, paints, silicone, grease, oil and dirt from a wide range of substrates. There is no removal of the metal substrate and no compressing or stressing occurs.

Available units include small cabinets from 1200 mm in length to large blast-rooms and mobile systems to work, for example, on aircraft or boats.

Technostrip does not require high pressure protection, water treatment or dirt disposal in the workplace, and its noise-level is below 80 dB.

**For further information on the above processes please call your usual sales contact at Indestructible Paint who will pass-on the enquiry.**

**TECHNOSTRIP**®  
**ProductLine**



# 'Gate guardian' gets the Rylard restoration treatment



Indestructible Paint Ltd is a supplier of coatings to the marine sector as well as the aerospace industry and the general industrial market. The company's Rylard Marine Coatings – because of the environment they have to exist in – have excellent all weather durability and salt resistance.

However, they have also found favour as restoration materials in a number of areas where their outstanding exterior performance characteristics have come to the fore. These include finishes on classic vehicles and old steam railway engines.

A vintage twin engine biplane - a De Havilland DH89A Dragon Rapide six to eight seat light airliner - is the latest restoration project for Rylard.

Indestructible provided the appropriate Rylard coating materials for the aircraft through its main UK Marine Coatings distributor Mainline

Building Products Ltd who had obtained the contract for its re-finishing.

Believed to have been built in the 1940s, the Dragon Rapide now serves as the 'gate guardian' at Liverpool's John Lennon airport.

Paint included Rylard undercoat, Rylard Plus Silvoline Silver and Rylard Plus Green and Cream topcoats.

Application of these products was by brush and roller giving the excellent result shown in the accompanying photograph.

## Indestructible agents

We are pleased to announce new sales contacts representing Indestructible Paint Ltd, in Europe.

**Ludger Gierse** of Industrie Marketing, (previously mentioned), covers Germany, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland.

Romania and Eastern Europe is covered by **Paul Beza** of Brittain Engineering, and France by **Gavin Hughes** of Pera Advanced Coatings.

## Product guides

Indestructible Paint Ltd is producing application guides to assist customers in the use of its products.

Listed below are three of those currently available, more will be added during the forthcoming months.

- **IPS 21 Rockhard Range**
- **IPS 60 Ipcote Range**
- **IPS 63 Ipal Diffusion Coating**

## Late news..... Two new developments

Indestructible Paint Ltd has re-commenced production of a new grade of Ipcote sacrificial coating, **IP9442**, as an alternative to Sermetal 962.

In addition two major engine manufacturers are testing the company's new carbon smut remover for cleaning aero engines.

Published by Indestructible Paint Ltd. 19-25 Pentos Drive, Sparkhill, Birmingham, B11 3TA.  
Telephone 44(0)121 702 2485 Fax 44(0)121 778 4338. sales@indestructible.co.uk

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Telephone/fax 44(0)386 840054 arrowpr@arrow59.freeserve.co.uk