

New Water-Clear Material is Mercury-Free

In response to International market considerations Atlas Polymers has produced a version of the successful Crystal-Cast VR138 water-clear rigid polyurethane that is free of organic mercury catalyst. Atlas is a market leader in the formulation and manufacture of polymer resin systems and ancillary products, with full attention given to the customer's requirements and specifications, along with the provision of a first-rate after-sales service and unrivalled technical support. The new product — Crystal-Cast VR150 — has been approved by one of the largest resin suppliers in the world as an addition to its range; and there will be a separate press release about this later in the year.

Atlas Polymers MD Dr. Graham Hunt commented; "Many markets are moving more and more towards removal of mercury catalysts from products, and Atlas has years of experience in this field. In particular the RoHS regulations demand that heavy metal compounds like mercury catalysts are not present. Having worked extensively on developing such products, we are able to produce most of the Atlas Polymers product range mercury-free."

Work is currently progressing on a mercury-free version of the Crystal-Cast E091 and Crystal-Cast VE096 water-clear flexible polyurethanes that are due to be released in the coming few months.

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Huntsman Celebrates 20 Years of SL Innovation

Huntsman Advanced Materials marks 20 years of development by continuing to innovate with the next generation of SL hybrid photopolymers. Huntsman has been involved in the development of stereolithography (SL) as a rapid prototyping (RP) technology since its earliest days in the 1980s. Today it is recognised and used throughout the world's design and manufacturing industries as one of the most cost-effective and flexible rapid technologies available.

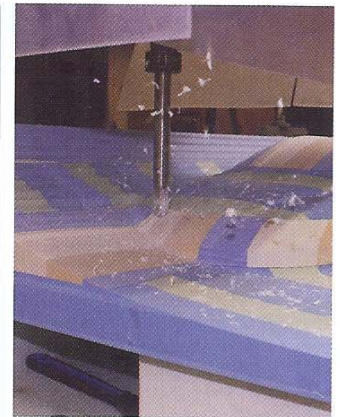
This year sees the 20th anniversary of the launch of the first commercially viable acrylate SL system by Huntsman in 1988, later named as SL 5081-1. Realising the potential of this versatile technology, Huntsman then committed to a major, ongoing programme of R&D in SL and achieved a series of significant product milestones for the industry. This continuous development programme has enabled the RenShape range to push SL materials into widely differing applications including concept modelling and prototype testing; casting and moulding patterns; medical models; short run production parts and prototype tooling and functional prototypes for customer testing and field approval.

RenShape SL's advanced hybrid photopolymer systems are

the latest breakthrough in Huntsman's continuous programme of SL product innovation. They mark the first major change in SL chemistries in nearly a decade and have extended SL resin capabilities to new levels of performance. These use both radical and cationic cure mechanisms, simultaneously. These advanced epoxy based SL photopolymers are designed to create prototype models and finished parts with improved overall functionality. Two of the most recent of these materials, SL 7810 and SL 7870 have been certified as conforming to the rigorous conditions of the FDA approved USP class VI test. This means they can be used for medical modelling and taken into sterile environments such as operating theatres.

With 20 years' experience of driving SL technology to new levels and into new arenas, the RenShape SL range from Huntsman will continue to evolve not only to meet the demands of the design engineer but to be in the vanguard of new, ever improving product introductions.

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Next Day Delivery on Epoxy Boards

Denaco UK, a wholly owned subsidiary of Ebalta, is pleased to announce that it is working with Trellaborg CRP Limited, manufacturers of the widest range of epoxy boards available in the market place. Trellaborg CRP has been producing epoxy boards for more than 20 years and has one of the largest state-of-the-art production facilities for epoxy board located in the UK. Denaco will hold stock of the commonly used boards in a variety of sizes all available on a next day delivery basis. The company is able to offer a comprehensive range of Tooling and Patternmaking materials to industries as diverse as Formula 1, Motorsport, Automotive, Aerospace, Marine and Foundry and prides itself on its high levels of customer support and satisfaction.

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Scaling New Heights

One of Britain's last remaining independent manufacturers of metrology products has just launched a new and innovative product that builds on the success of the best selling Micro Vertex height gauge. Derby based Eley Metrology has developed, and introduced to the market, a worthy addition to its well regarded range of measuring machines. The VERTEX 800 is a vertical measuring system (VMS), with several new, patented features that will reportedly save time and money for users.

With a frictionless counter

balance and unique triangular spindle there are great benefits for achieving accuracy and stability. Perpendicularity is second to none, without the use of 'error correction' typical of conventional height gauges, according to the manufacturer. For lower maintenance costs there is the new 'spherical clamping system' at the bottom and a spherical 'expansion bearing' at the top. The end result is a stress free, floating column, adjusted from the top for easy maintenance. The new VERTEX incorporates many useful features as standard. For example, a built-in 'safety first' air cushion and 'blue tooth' connection for connecting to a printer. Constant probing force, collision protection,

a frictionless magnetic drive system and a positive pneumatic carriage lock all add to the list of features. Furthermore, the new VERTEX can truly utilise the full height of the column by using its dual probe holder, because the probe is held by a circular clamping force, with a unique probe 'timing' system. Thus the user can utilise the 800 mm measuring range in the same cycle.

Eley Metrology is the UK's largest independent manufacturer of CMMs, height gauges and metrology standards. The company also produces measurement software for both CMMs and optical measuring machines.



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