

PRESS RELEASE

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Scott Bader's new automated Crystic 'Rapide' Pre-pigmented Gelcoat service for 25kg kegs is a big hit with customers.

In January of this year, Scott Bader UK started operating its new automated dispensing and mixing system which can rapidly produce a 25kg keg of gelcoat in any RAL, BS or colour matched colour, so speeding up the overall delivery service to customers. The minimum order quantity is only 25kg and delivery to UK customers is within 3-5 working days. This new coloured gelcoat service has quickly won acclaim with both new and existing customers as it combines a fast delivery service with no compromise on gelcoat quality or long-term performance.

The new automated gelcoat and pigment dispensing system is a significant capital investment by Scott Bader, enhancing its gelcoat production facilities in the UK in response to the needs of the market place for shorter lead times and smaller order quantities for a coloured gelcoat. FRP converters making parts for transportation, automotive, building and general industrial applications in particular have found the new Crystic Rapide service very attractive and the numbers of customers using the service has grown significantly since the launch. Robin Williams, Sales Director for Aquafibre Mouldings Ltd, who built complex jointed mouldings commented: *"Our operators and in particular our experienced finishers, who have used gelcoats from a variety of suppliers, made a particular point of telling me how good the Crystic Rapid gelcoats are, even greys and other darker colours, having an excellent colour match and seeing no pin-holing on reworked joints."* Keith Siddle, Operations Director of Lamplas Polymer Engineering, also commented "We have tried a number of Crystic 65PA Rapide colours and are very happy with the quality. We are pleased that Scott Bader is now offering this quick delivery service"

The project took 12 months to develop and test, with a clear aim to provide the best quality on the market compared to any other small batch gelcoat 'colour kitchen' system.. To ensure consistent quality, the Crystic Rapide service uses the same pigments and marine grade gelcoat base technology as is used in larger batch Crystic gelcoat production and the same rigorous quality pre checks are done on both the gelcoat bases and pigments. This means that long-term weathering performance is not compromised as the individual base pigments have all been selected to offer the lowest colour change and best gloss retention over time. Samantha Bell, European Product Manager, Gelcoats, Scott Bader Company Ltd who led the project commented *"The new automated dispensing has excellent batch-to-batch colour consistency and accurate colour matching, which were critical success factors in the project. We know they have been achieved as so many*

customers have told us that they cannot see a difference between a standard manufactured gelcoat batch from Scott Bader and a Crystic Rapide keg." Samantha Bell went on to add "We have won many more customers with this quick service which is great news in a tough market."

Customers can order either Crystic 65PA Rapide for brush application or Crystic LS97PA Rapide for spray application; both are isophthalic gelcoats, suitable for a broad range of demanding applications, including marine as both gelcoat grades are Lloyds approved. Topcoat versions of both in any RAL, BS or colour matched colour 2 are also supplied via this Crystic Rapide service: Crystic 65PAX Rapide and LS 97PAX Rapide. The service is available to both UK and export customers.

About Scott Bader

Scott Bader was established in 1921. Today it is a £180 million multinational chemical company, employing 560 people worldwide. It is a common trusteeship company, having no external shareholders, with a strong commitment to supporting its workforce, society and the environment.

The Scott Bader headquarters is based in the UK where they have purpose-built, state-of-the-art technical facilities that provide R & D as well as complete evaluation, testing and application support. They have manufacturing facilities in the UK, France, Croatia, The Middle East and South Africa. For further information regarding Scott Bader, please call +44 (0) 1933 663100, visit www.scottbader.com or e-mail info@scottbader.com