

# THE ULTIMATE FINISH

OCTOBER 2016 ISSUE 18

## 150 YEARS OF COLOUR BRILLIANCE



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

Ecomapping Explained

Rare 1923 Bugatti Restoration

New Industry Labelling - Are You Ready?



150  
1866 - 2016  
YEARS



AXALTA COATING SYSTEMS

# COLOUR THAT DRIVES YOUR BUSINESS.

At Axalta, our experts have lived the passion for colour for 150 years. Not only did we help pioneer the science of colour measurement, we continue to deliver the most innovative colour products and tools on the market today.

Our tools and technology are designed to help you obtain the most accurate colour match possible for every job, every time - faster and easier than ever before. Because it's not guesswork or approximation - it's science!

**Looking forward to the next 150 years!**



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## Message from the MANAGING DIRECTOR

Axalta is celebrating a momentous milestone this year, with 2016 marking our 150th year of producing vehicle coatings.

Back in 1866, our coatings protected the panels of European carriages. Today, our refinish products find their way onto all sorts of vehicles, from cars and trucks to boats, helicopters, planes and even bridges!

When it comes to perfect colour matching, Axalta have created an unrivalled range of revolutionary tools. With technology like our spectrophotometer in our arsenal, we're your colour delivery experts.

Colour is just one of the areas where we're confidently pushing boundaries and leading industry best practices, to move Axalta and our customers forward with advances in technology.

Another is sustainability – of the environment, of our customers' businesses, and of the refinish industry overall.

On the environmental front, our Ecomapping efforts are helping our refinish customers to achieve their sustainability goals and find ways to further develop their green management plans.

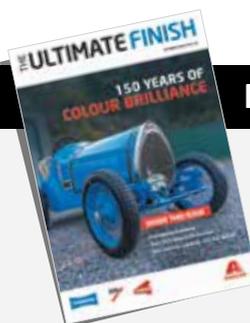
Turn to page 6 to see how businesses like Fleurieu Crash Repairs and Seaford Crash Repairs are leveraging Ecomapping to their benefit.

We're also very pleased that 2016 is our 40th year of manufacturing paints right here in Australia (p8). We're proud to report that we have expanded our manufacturing production over time, generating flow-on benefits into the Australian economy through localised trade and employment.

Also in this issue, we demonstrate the value of our OEM quality refinish; celebrate some of our longest-standing customers; and look at some of the innovative ways our paints are being used across everything from plastic (p14) to vintage cars (p17) to mighty mining machines (p20)!

Sincerely,

**Steven Brett**  
Managing Director  
Axalta Coating Systems



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Published for and on behalf of Axalta Coating Systems by Solutions Outsourced.

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# 150 YEARS OF COLOUR BRILLIANCE

## AXALTA COLOUR TOOLS - UNPARALLELED FOR PRECISION AND EFFICIENCY

When it comes to perfect colour matching, Axalta has created an unrivalled range of revolutionary tools and technologies. We're your colour delivery experts.

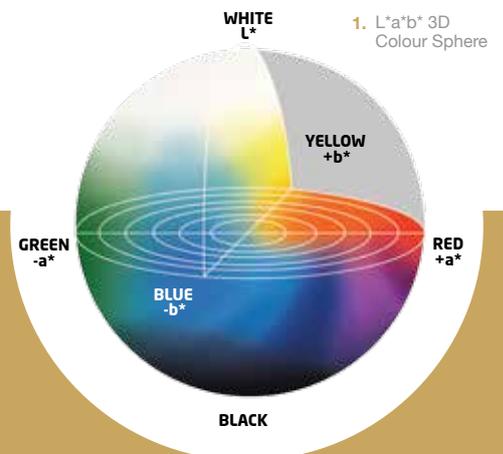
At Axalta, we believe colour adds vibrancy, beauty and personality to a vehicle. As one of the world leaders in breakthrough coating technologies, and with some of the most innovative colour-matching tools on the market, it's clear that our experts live their passion for colour every day – and have done so throughout our 150-year history.

Since producing our first coatings for European carriages in 1866, we have strived for colour-perfect finishes. We even pioneered the science of colour measurement by implementing the

revolutionary  $L^*a^*b^*$  cube-root colour space almost 60 years ago. The set of formulas served as the basis of the CIELAB colour space and is used as the foundation of colour measurement today.

For you, our customers, we understand the fundamental needs when it comes to colour in the workshop: when you can match colours faster, workflow increases and happy customers have their cars back sooner. Our colour tools are designed to make this crucial part of the process fast, simple and seamless.

To begin, we start at the source: integrating the current colour trends and finishes of original equipment manufacturers so we can create visual and digital tools to perfectly replicate every colour in the automotive spectrum. Then we put those tools in your hands.



## AXALTA'S $L^*A^*B$ COLOUR IS REVOLUTIONARY

The  $L^*a^*b^*$  colour system was developed and perfected in the 1940's and 50's, and revolutionised colour matching because of the way it approximated human vision. Not only does it include all perceivable colours

- but it also aims to see colour the way people do, which makes it unrivalled for visual accuracy.

In this space, the  $a^*$  and  $b^*$  dimensions represent the red-green and yellow-blue opponent colour axes, and the  $L^*$  dimension is a measure of lightness, which closely matches the way the human eye perceives it.

The  $L^*a^*b^*$  colour space is a triumph for Axalta and refinishers alike. Greater efficiency, precise results and delighted customers means bodyshops experience fewer comebacks and fast throughput on the floor.

# AXALTA COLOUR TOOLS

## Colour support

Over the past six decades, Axalta's experts have led the way in understanding the role of colour in the vehicle industry by compiling the **Automotive Color Popularity Report**. The report gives a unique insight into automotive colour preferences and emerging trends.



1. 2015 Global Automotive Color Popularity Report

## Visual tools support your expert eye

For comprehensive visual colour-matching, we provide **Tinting Charts** that contain colour wheels, colour chips, tint codes, colour names and shading information. Plus **Solid** and **Effect Decks**, which are sprayed using actual paint, to help match challenging colours and variants like metallics, pearls and special effects.



2. Our fan decks are sprayed with actual paint

The new **Axalta Colour Inspector** simulates different daylight conditions to reveal disparities in paint colours and effects that would normally only be visible after leaving the workshop, helping to avoid costly errors. See page 25 for more information.

## Digital tools see what we can't

Paint has subtle characteristics that can make matching difficult for even the most experienced refinisher. The optic technology in Axalta's **Acquire Spectrophotometer** looks deep into the paint film to acquire its characteristics and flake at different angles. It takes into account hues, tones and effects, and works in conjunction with Axalta's online digital tools to give you a highly accurate colour match.



3. Acquire Spectrophotometer

Our extensive online global database and user friendly colour formula retrieval program instantly connects you to an ever-updating catalogue of over **7 million unique colours** for precision matching. These tools provide significant benefit to customers working with car brands that require delicate and sophisticated colours and finishes.



4. Our digital colour tools are linked to over 7 million unique colours

Using our secure and user-friendly software, managers and staff can review multiple reports for shops within their network, share **special colour libraries**, and utilise VINdicator, which easily retrieves a basecoat formula via the vehicle's identification number.

## LOOKING FORWARD TO THE NEXT 150 YEARS OF COLOUR EVOLUTION!

# ECOMAPPING TAKES BODYSHOPS FROM ECO-CLEAN TO SUPER GREEN

A growing number of collision repairers are stepping up in their quest to reduce their environmental impact through a simple sustainability drawing tool called Ecomapping.

Being environmentally conscious is a key initiative in the future-proofing of the motor industry for the next generations. Bodyshops that actively work towards a higher level of ecological responsibility also benefit from an increase in productivity and a reduction in waste, both of which help to reduce running costs.

Axalta's Refinish Performance Management (RPM) program offers an opportunity to maximise the operations in the repair centre. With a range of proven solutions to enhance functionality and profitability, it delivers practical tools, training and customised strategies by Axalta consultants.

Refinish Performance Management Account Manager Ewan Pettigrew, has guided several South Australian repairers through the Ecomapping process. The objective, to help them achieve their sustainability goals and further develop their environmental management.

Ecomapping involves drawing up a birds-eye map of the business site, highlighting water and energy usage and waste generated, as well as environmental risks and potential noise and soil contamination. From there, owners and staff can formulate solutions to limit excess usage – such as installing lighting timers or water tanks – or introduce new procedures for waste management.

Ewan says Ecomapping is a simple way for businesses to be able to visualise areas of improvement, which in turn will make the workshop more productive and profitable, as well as enhancing their environmental efforts.

"We look at whether there's anything that's being stored that could contaminate the soil; anything that's creating air odours, oil or dust as well," explains Ewan. "We work out the energy impact too: the

major appliances in the building like air conditioners and lighting, and determine the energy consumption. We'll also look at what's being recycled and what's going into landfill."

Having an active environmental plan "helps businesses to be more successful, because it sets them apart and shows they are leaders in their industry," adds Ewan. "Certain councils, for example, are saying they want to work with environmentally approved services."

Ecomapping is particularly helpful for bodyshops looking to earn a Green Stamp for their sustainability initiatives. The national Green Stamp program identifies and rewards smash repair workshops and other motor services that exceed legal requirements for environmental management.

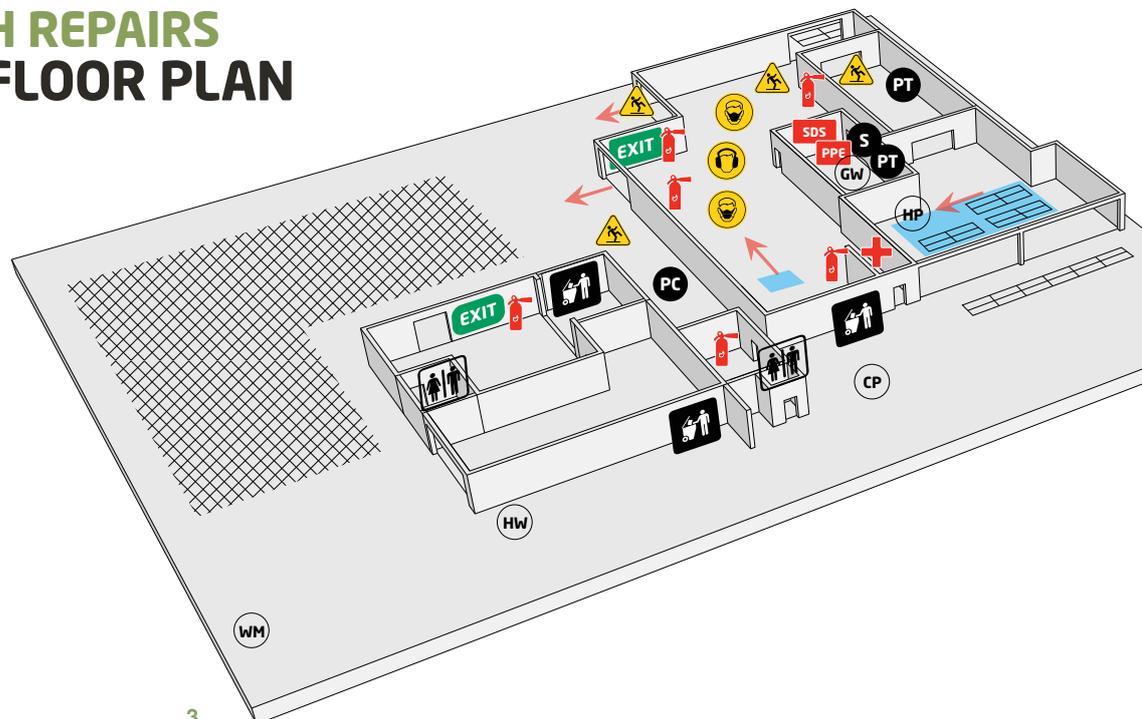
Sarah Koureas, NSW Environmental Manager for MTA and a Green Stamp auditor, says by earning an accreditation, businesses can then market their environmental practices to the greater community.

"Not only are these businesses complying with environmental laws, they're going above and beyond legislative requirements," says Sarah, who notes that environmental sustainability is at a standard that's never been achieved before in Australia. "We believe that's something that they should be rewarded for."

1. Fleurieu Crash Repairs' Team
2. Seaford Crash Repairs' Team
3. Seaford Crash Repairs' Ecomapping Floor Plan

## SEAFORD CRASH REPAIRS ECOMAPPING FLOOR PLAN

This map gives a clear picture of all the actual and potential hazards that will impact on the company's environmental footprint and productivity. Whether those hazards be water, air, noise or storage related, a plan is then developed to address both positive and negative aspects to the map. Each year this map is revised, highlighting areas of improvement and those that need more focus.



# 2016 ECOMAPPING ADVOCATES



1.



2.

## FLEURIEU CRASH REPAIRS

Brenton Abbot and his wife Meredith, in South Australia, have been using Ecomapping at Green Stamp accredited Fleurieu Crash Repairs for several years. “We like to see ourselves as an environmentally responsible workshop, so Ecomapping is a checklist we run through twice a year to look at whether in-place practices are being maintained, and how we can improve,” Meredith explains. “It helps us look for ways to make things just that bit better.”

## SEAFORD CRASH REPAIRS

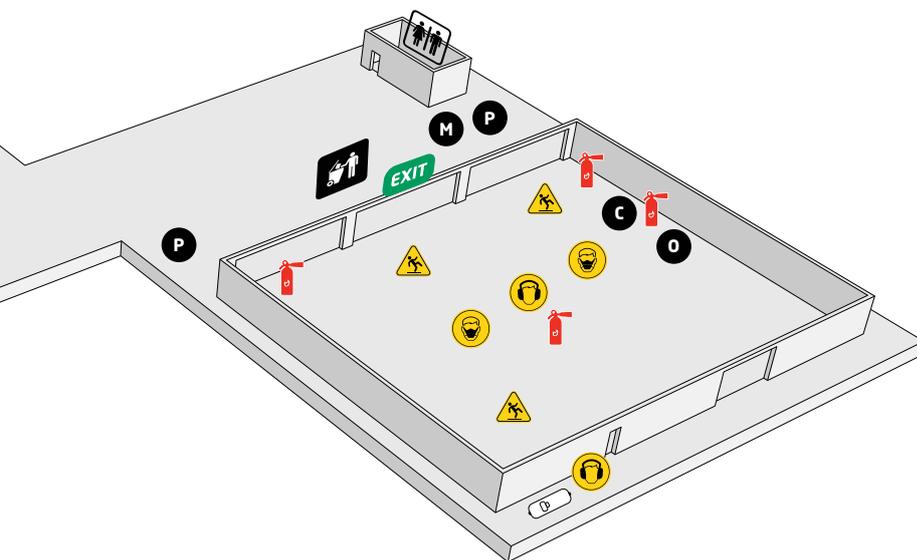
At Seaford Crash Repairs in South Australia, Manager Steve Sferruzzi says Ecomapping is helping them achieve their goal of earning a Green Stamp. “We’ve had Axalta helping us with Ecomapping and we’ve made changes, like listings of where all our chemicals are stored, and monitoring and reducing how much water we use,” says Steve. “We’ve got a few little steps left, and hopefully we’ll have our Green Stamp within six months.”

### What is the Green Stamp Accreditation?

Run by the Motor Trade Association in each state and territory, the national Green Stamp Program recognises and encourages the efforts of businesses who go above and beyond in their sustainability initiatives.

#### The program aims to:

- Raise awareness of environmental impact in the automotive industry
- Encourage innovative solutions to environmental issues in the workshop
- Reward ‘green-minded’ businesses who strive towards sustainability and ecological best practice
- Shift consumer perceptions



### HAZARDS

- Emergency Exit
- Trip Hazard
- Slope of Floor
- Fire Extinguishers
- Toilets
- Personal Protective Equipment
- SDS Location
- Drain to Collection Point

### WATER

- Wet Areas
- Gun Wash
- High Pressure Cleaner
- Water Meter
- Hot Water System
- Collection Point

### SOIL & STORAGE

- Gravel
- Waste Disposal
- Plastic
- Coolant
- Oil, Oil Filters
- Paint & Thinners
- Solvent
- Metal Parts
- Paper & Cardboard

### AIR, ODOURS, NOISE, DUST

- Dust
- Noise
- Compressor



1.

**AXALTA**

# 40 YEARS OF MANUFACTURING IN AUSTRALIA



2.

Axalta celebrates 40 years of manufacturing paints in Australia, which also coincides with the company's 150<sup>th</sup> year in operation.

Axalta's Riverstone plant, located in Sydney's north-west, began as a local paint company, Regal Paints, in 1976. Since then the plant has seen several owners and, consequently, many changes over the years.

Regal paints started out producing and selling paint thinners. Over the years it expanded its refinish line and started manufacturing paint products under the license from Ault & Wyborg. Ault & Wyborg was then acquired by Herberts and Regal Paints was acquired by Croda Paints in the UK in 1991.

purchased by the Carlyle Group in 2013. The newly-formed independent global coatings company was then renamed Axalta Coating Systems. A new chapter in the company's history began, providing greater opportunities for the Riverstone site to be aligned with the latest advancements in coatings technology and equipment.

Today, the site produces 75 per cent of the company's refinish paint sold in Australia and New Zealand. It concentrates on the production of primers, thinners, hardeners, clears and selected colours.



3.

This led to the next phase for the Riverstone site, the joint 50/50 venture that brought together both Croda Paints UK and Herberts in 1993. This venture proved vital, giving both companies the opportunity to not only manufacture in Australia but also establish themselves as dominant players in the market with their two brands Standox and Spies Hecker (at that time were only imported into Australia). This led to the upgrade of the plant, labs and testing facilities, in order to conform to European standards.

Safety and environmental responsibility is a priority for the company. The result, Axalta has obtained ISO 14000, ISO AS/NZS 9001:2000 alongside ISO 9002 and is also Australian Paint Approval Scheme (APAS) certified and continues to pass industry audits with flying colours.

For the first time in the company's history Axalta entered into the defence industry sector, signing a contract to supply the entire suite of camouflage paint, for over 2,500 military vehicles, under the Land 121 Phase 3B Defence program. The plant now being APAS compliant has not only expanded its manufacturing production but has generated flow-on benefits into the Australian economy through localised trade and employment.



4.

In 1999 DuPont® purchased Herberts and in 2001 acquired the remaining balance of the joint venture with Croda Paints UK, forming DuPont Performance Coatings – the largest automotive coatings company in the world. The company also created a new brand, DuPont Refinish, now known as Cromax.

Riverstone now looked after three major brands - Standox, Spies Hecker and DuPont Refinish - increasing manufacturing exponentially.

The success of DuPont Performance Coatings led to the company being

- 1. Staff at Axalta's Riverstone site
- 2. Main building as Croda Herberts
- 3. Standox training centre during Croda Herberts
- 4. Riverstone site as it is today



1.

## TRIPLE M HOLDINGS

# PARTNERS WITH STANDOX TO MEET HIGH OEM STANDARDS

After partnering with more than a dozen global automotive manufacturers, Triple M Holdings required a premium refinish on their manufactured tray bodies. They began using Standox over 15 years ago to ensure quality and compliance – and they’ve never looked back.

Queensland-based Triple M Holdings opened its doors in 1967 as a general engineering company, and commenced manufacturing tray bodies in 1974. Triple M, which stands for Manufacturing, Maintenance, Machining, currently employs a team of 190, including five professional painters.

In 1998, Triple M began solidifying relationships with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs), including Toyota, Mitsubishi, Mazda and Nissan to provide genuine branded tray bodies. At this point they began working with Standox, to ensure the premium finish and quality outcome as demanded by manufacturers.

“Since then, Triple M has grown in leaps and bounds and now provides product to more than ten OEMs. To date, we have sold over 450,000 aluminium and steel tray bodies, with 300,000 being sold in the past 12 years,” says Michael Fletcher, Design and Development Manager for Triple M Holdings.

“Part of the success of Triple M is the modular design that allows the tray body to be flat packed and shipped nationally at a competitive price.”

Another key to their success is their strong partnerships, such as their relationship with Axalta.

“Our paint division can finish up to 25 tray bodies per day. The wet-on-wet products offered by Axalta ensures that we can maintain a high output through our paint division,” Michael explains.

“As a significant amount of our business is with OEM companies, we have to meet their stringent quality and performance requirements. The products supplied from Axalta have been tested to these OEM requirements, allowing us to offer warranty in line with a new vehicle accessory warranty.”

Another relationship they rely on for quality and consistency in their supply chain is Queensland Paint Supplies, Triple M’s long-time distributor.

“We have had a great relationship with Peter and Mark Lambert for over 20 years,” Michael adds.

“Over this time, they have provided excellent service, allowing us to run an efficient JIT [Just In Time] supply and manufacturing process.”

**Technical Consultant** - Scott Town  
**Business Development Manager** - Glenn Holloway  
**Distributor** - Queensland Paint Supplies  
**Paint System** - Standox

1. Some of the Triple M team, a proud Australian manufacturer
2. One of the many trays manufactured and painted by Triple M
3. Dispatching tray bodies to Triple M’s Australia-wide customer base





# PETER KITTLE COLLISION REPAIR CENTRE

1.

## OEM APPROVED FACILITY MEETS THE MARKET

Combining state-of-the-art facilities, a modern business model and the cutting edge waterborne paint system, Standoblue®, gives Peter Kittle Collision Repair Centre a unique competitive edge in the South Australian market.

Located north of Adelaide, Peter Kittle Collision Repair Centre, which operates as a car dealership and repair facility, is the only Toyota-authorized body and paint crash repairer in South Australia.

The parent company, Peter Kittle Motor Company, commenced operations in 1988 in Alice Springs. Today the business boasts several locations throughout the Northern Territory and South Australia.

“The business started brand new three years ago and we currently have 19 staff,” explains manager Paul Whelan. “Previously, I worked in many shops in South Australia and I managed teams for an insurance company. When I was approached by Peter Kittle I took the opportunity immediately.”

Being a Toyota authorised OEM repairer gives them “an incredible competitive edge,” Paul adds.

“We are the only business who has this qualification in South Australia, so that is a huge advantage over our competitors,” he says.

Their repair facilities are also very well equipped, as they are using Standoblue in Lowbake booths with a Gas Arch.

This, alongside the benefits of using the Standoblue paint range, which has OEM approval with Toyota, offers a powerful opportunity to deliver high impact results to customers.

“This is very helpful and everything about Standoblue is superior, in terms of speed, colour and everything else. It has an amazing streamline.”

In addition to their repair facilities, Peter Kittle Motor Company has four multi-franchise car dealerships specialising in Toyota, GM Holden, Nissan and Mitsubishi.

In line with their commitment to long-term sustainability, Paul has attended many of the LEAN courses offered through Axalta’s Refinish Performance Management (RPM) program.

“As a result, Paul and his team have implemented many of the LEAN processes that we have discussed,” explains Robin Taylor, RPM account manager. “They have a dedicated Blueprinting Bay and they now use simple visual controls to help manage the flow through the shop. They also have daily production meetings to ensure everyone knows what is expected for the day.”

Peter Kittle’s commitment to long-term sustainability has also led them to incorporate a number of green initiatives into their day-to-day business practices.

“We really recycle everything, from water, to cardboard to paint thinners,” Paul says. “We have our own recycling system on the top of the roof, which catches rain from the gutter and then sends it through the building. You name it, and we’ve found a way to recycle it!”



2.



3.

**Technical Consultant** - Darren Walker  
**RPM Manager** - Robin Taylor  
**Distributor** - SA Color  
**Paint System** - Standoblue

1. Peter Kittle Collision Repair Centre
2. Standoblue used in Lowbake booths with a Gas Arch
3. RPM has helped with the implementation of LEAN processes



1.



2.

## BAYSIDE SMASH REPAIRS

# 36 YEARS OF STAYING POWER

In 1980, vehicle repairers Greg Wilson and Steve Gordon's decision to quit their jobs and start Bayside Smash Repairs on the Gold Coast, resulted in a bodyshop that has well and truly withstood the test of time.

Greg and Steve – who between them have 80+ years in the automotive repair industry – say their long-term success stems from determination and a focus on staying ahead of new technology and equipment.

“Cars are always evolving, and you’ve got to keep up with what’s going on,” says Greg, who has seen a lot of positive changes in the workshop in his 40 years in the field.

“Now, we can get much closer to factory finish than we could 20 years ago,” Greg explains. “We use computerised colour matching systems, and we’ve been using an Acquire Spectrophotometer for nearly 10 years, which has made matching finishes a lot easier and more accurate.”

Twenty-five years ago, Bayside Smash Repairs adopted the Standox paint system. “We looked at all the products, and we looked at the quality, and [Standex] was the best,” says Greg. “We’ve never had any problems; always good service and good materials.”

Two years ago they switched to Standoblue waterborne, which further improved their colour accuracy. “The colours are definitely better and the silvers especially are very good,” Greg says.

Along with their 12 staff who “feel like family,” Greg and Steve are positive about the future of Bayside Smash Repairs. “We have customers who come from near and far, and

top products that provide a better finish and longevity. When the next thing changes, we’ll move with it.”

**Technical Consultant** - Jason Farrow

**Distributor** - Harts Paint Supplies

**Paint System** - Standoblue

- 1. Bayside Smash Repairs' premises
- 2. Bayside Smash Repairs' Team

## QUEENSLAND PAINT SUPPLIES

# 45 YEARS AND COUNTING

When Peter Lambert launched Queensland Paint Supplies in 1971 to service the automotive refinish industry, he had one rule: never compromise on quality or service. Perhaps this is why, 45 years later, the business is thriving.

Peter Lambert established Queensland Paint Supplies (QPS) with his late wife Sandra in July 1971, after almost a decade in the Army as a motor mechanic, and seven years as a service representative at Norton (now St Gobain) automotive adhesives company.

“There weren’t a lot of suppliers servicing the auto refinish industry at the time. I could see an opportunity and went for it. It was the silliest thing I ever did, as I’m still here!” Peter jokes.

Forty-five years later, the business is surviving and thriving. As managing director, Peter – alongside his sons, Gary and Mark – oversees two premises in Salisbury and Ipswich. They stock a range of Axalta products, including our popular Standox paint system.

“I was probably one of your very first distributors. Certainly, I was the first Queensland distributor of Regal paints, who were taken over by the company that became Axalta,” Peter says.

He adds that he backs Axalta products due to its high quality. “I don’t believe under any circumstance of compromising on quality or customer service, which is why we get very, very few product complaints,” Peter says.

Having seen many changes in the industry while he has been steering the ship at QPS, Peter adds that after 45 years, he’s “not ready to retire just yet.” “I don’t work five days per week but I’m still here 2-3 days,” he says. “I enjoy the challenge too much!”

1. Queensland Paint Supplies' premises





1.

## SERGE'S CRASH REPAIRS

# HALF A MILLION DOLLAR COMEBACK

One year after a devastating fire destroyed most of the paint shop, Serge Harmer is happy with the decision he made with his managers, Glenn Key and Sandra Audoss, to rebuild his business, Serge's Crash Repairs in South Australia.

Serge's Crash Repairs opened in the early 1970's, starting as a two-man business and growing into the region's only major crash repairer employing 13 staff.

On 30 June 2015, during general maintenance on a baking oven, a fire broke out in the heat exchanger. The fire spread and was quickly out of control, leaving Serge, managers and staff devastated. The extent of the damage came in at over half a million dollars.

Twenty-four hours after the fire, Serge, along with Glenn and Sandra, were faced with a huge decision – to rebuild or close up for good.

As a member to MTA SA, a preferred supplier to a number of insurance companies and having built a partnership with O'Brien Glass, Serge couldn't let his clients or his staff down. The decision was pretty clear.

"At the time of the fire, we had a lot of young staff who had just bought houses and made investments. We were the only major crash repairer in the area as well, so we decided to go forward and rebuild the place," says Serge.

With the help and support of suppliers, the local council and industry, as well as staff and managers, they were able to rebuild the premises in six months.

"A year on, we're still a little hung over from the fire. Thanks to the hard work of Glenn, Sandra and everyone else involved, the shop is up and running. Procedures take a while to catch up, but we're almost there now," says Serge.

Out of retirement since the fire, Serge and the managers knew they had to make some changes to make sure the business could survive and thrive.

Firstly, they introduced some green initiatives to reduce their environmental impact and cut electricity costs. Serge's Crash Repairs was the first shop in the region to make the switch to waterborne, and is possibly the only shop around with 120 solar panels on the roof!

Then they got started with the Refinish Performance Management (RPM) program. Serge says that in such a challenging industry, sustainability is key to survival.

"We're in a tough industry. We had to put practices into place to make sure we're working efficiently. We put RPM plans into place to survive," says Serge.

And the team has no regrets. Since they made changes they've noticed increased efficiency, positive changes to work practices and huge cost reductions.

With the help of hard working managers and staff, Serge has no doubt that he'll be back on the golf course, dusting off his clubs in no time.

**Technical Consultant** - Darren Walker  
**RPM Consultant** - Ewan Pettigrew  
**Distributor** - Lakeside Nissan  
**Paint System** - Permahyd Hi-TEC

1. The team at Serge's Crash Repairs
2. The devastating aftermath of the fire
3. The shop as it is today

## 2. BEFORE



## AFTER 3.



## COORPAROO PAINT AND PANEL

# CELEBRATING 30 YEARS WITH SPIES HECKER

After 30 years of using Spies Hecker – more than half of the time using the Permahyd waterborne range – Coorparoo Paint and Panel is firmly focused on a sustainable future.

After opening Coorparoo Paint and Panel in 1979, Walter Evans says he has seen a number of changes to the panel and refinishing industry over the years.

At 67-years-young, Walter now does some work in the business and mentors other local crash repairers, but he leaves managing the second-generation business to his son, Brett.

“We started the business in 1979 and moved around the corner to this building in 1984. We sold to my son Brett three years ago; he started his apprenticeship through here and is a panel beater by trade. Now, he’s taking the business down a different, more sustainable road,” Walter explains.

“When people talk about sustainability, they often refer to the environmental side of things, but we’re also talking about sustainability from a commercial perspective. The direction of the business is that it’s no longer reliant on insurance work to do very well.”

Walter, a spray painter by trade, says part of their success has been due to strong supplier partnerships. He credits Coorparoo Paint and Panel’s long-term relationship with Axalta, which began when he started using Spies Hecker when it was first introduced in 1986, as a mutual win.

“We moved to waterborne in the late 1990s; that’s when we began using the Permahyd range. We’ve since moved on to the Permahyd Hi-TEC range and we haven’t looked back,” Walter explains.

“When we made the decision to transition over, we actually had the system installed on a Friday afternoon and threw all the solvent paint away over the weekend. On the Monday when the painters arrived, they had no choice but to use the waterborne system!”

Walter with Brett also add that it’s not just the products, but also the tools and support that make such a difference to the quality of their work.

“Spies Hecker is a perfect fit for this company. It seems to work in well with this business, in this location, and we never have a problem with the products,” Brett says.

“The spectrophotometer is worth its weight in gold, it’s invaluable. Eye-matching is subjective; you can use a colour chart and have different results from person to person. The spectro is not subjective as it takes all the guess work out of painting. You wouldn’t consider operating on a daily basis without one.”

“Spies Hecker is a perfect fit for this company. It seems to work in well with the business, in the location, and we never have a problem with the products”

**- Brett Evans,**  
**Owner of Coorparoo Paint and Panel**

1. Coorparoo Paint and Panel’s premises

**Technical Consultant** - Geoffrey Stringfellow

**Distributor** - Brisbane Refinish Supplies

**Paint System** - Permahyd Hi-TEC



## BRISBANE REFINISH SUPPLIES

# RON SAMBROOKS RETIRES AFTER 30 YEARS

After three decades, Ron 'Sam' Sambrooks is hanging up his hat and retiring from Brisbane Refinish Supplies – and as his boss Zane Willis says, he's left “very big shoes to fill.”

Ron, better known as Sam, has been working for Brisbane Refinish Supplies since the very early days.

“When I started it was called Byrne Auto Trade Supplies, before Brisbane Refinish Supplies took over on 1 July 1991 – so I've been here since day one,” Sam says.

“I started as a tech demonstrator and then got into sales. We serviced as far north as Bundaberg and out to Charleville (700km west of Brisbane), and down to the Gold Coast. When I first started everyone was using lacquer, then acrylic, then 2pac and now water. There have been a lot of changes, you can say that again!”

Zane Willis, director at Brisbane Refinish Supplies, describes Sam's commitment to customer service as one of his biggest assets.

“He's always shown consistent customer loyalty and he definitely went out of his way to make sure customers were satisfied. He's left behind very big shoes to fill – we would have loved to have cloned him if we could!”

Zane adds that Sam is one of many valued long-term employees on their team. “Sam is one of our elder statesmen, but we're lucky enough to have 22 guys on the books, and 9 of them have been here for 15 years or more. We're pretty proud of that fact,” Zane says.

Following 30 years service at Brisbane Refinish Supplies, Sam is looking forward to a well-earned break. “I've been so busy, I haven't had much chance to think about retirement,” he admits. “Although I'd like to play a little bit more golf down the track!”



1. Ron Sambrooks

# PLASTIC REFINISHING MADE EASY

## Plastic

Today, plastics are an established feature of the modern vehicle but not all plastics are the same. The variety of plastics and their composition means that they can react differently to UV radiation, solvents, cleaning products and paint. This is no longer a problem with Spies Hecker's Plastic System.

Spies Hecker has a number of products in its Plastic Parts Paint System, including primers, additives and clear coats. When supplemented with special additives for elasticity and for creating matte and textured surfaces, these products help refinishers achieve effective and successful plastic paint repairs.

There are three fundamental rules that make the process easy and straightforward.

### STEP 1

#### An accurate assessment

At the outset of a plastic repair, a detailed inspection is required to ascertain whether the part is old or new, or if it has been painted, primed, or is untreated. Refinishers should also determine if the plastic part has been damaged or repaired previously, or if it is resistant to solvents.

### STEP 2

#### Thorough cleaning

Once the plastic part has been assessed, it must be thoroughly cleaned to ensure the best adhesion possible for the refinish paint. An anti-static degreaser, such as Permaloid® Silicone Remover 7010 from Spies Hecker, helps to clean the area and to eliminate static electricity on the surface. This step can eradicate non-water soluble contaminants, as well as remove small amounts of grease and oil. Permaloid Silicone Remover 7010 can be used on most automotive exterior plastic parts and helps to prevent the plastic from attracting dust particles that can impair the final finish.

### STEP 3

#### Choose the right product and tools

When the plastic part is completely clean, refinishers can then choose the appropriate products for the various repair stages. For example, when trim parts are coated in a different colour, which is often the case with older cars or with customised parts, product selection can be quite a challenge. Spies Hecker offers refinishers a full range of colour tools for precise colour matching – the Acquire spectrophotometer, Phoenix colour software, and the Color Index swatch system, as well as an online formula search, make refinishing of plastic parts easy.

### Products

- Permacron® 1:1 Elastic Primer Surfacer 3300
- Priomat® Elastic Primer 3304 Transparent
- Permasolid® Elastic Additive 9050
- Permasolid® Matte Component MA 110
- Permasolid® HS Surfacer 5340 with Plastic Additive 9060



A LEGEND COMES TO LIFE

# SPIES HECKER RESURRECTS A VINTAGE FORD A ROADSTER - SPEED ROD

1.

Well-respected Austrian airbrush artist Knud Tiroch teamed up with Spies Hecker to resurrect a vintage car and turn it into a high-performance, unique, stunning red Speed Rod.

Tiroch discovered fragments of the Ford A Roadster from the early 1930s on an old farm in Iowa, USA. After a lot of research, he discovered that during Prohibition the car had smuggled illegal liquor at night as a so-called Moonshine Runner. After the end of Prohibition, the car went on to take part in privately organised races, which were the precursors of today's NASCAR series.

"I was captivated by the Ford's history and decided to resurrect it as the Speed Rod in memory of its wild and chequered past," Tiroch explains. The large 650kg engine block boasts a whopping 6.6 litres of cubic capacity, 400 cubic inch engine, an estimated top speed of 200km/h, and a fiery red colour. Each element of the Speed Rod takes you back in time to the riveting spirit of the 1930 Ford A Roadster's origins – an era of speed and adventure.

More than 1400 hours of work went into the construction and painting of the Speed Rod. "We've been completely true to the Speed Rod's history in its restoration; there are no additions, not even one more screw than it would have had in its heyday," says Tiroch.

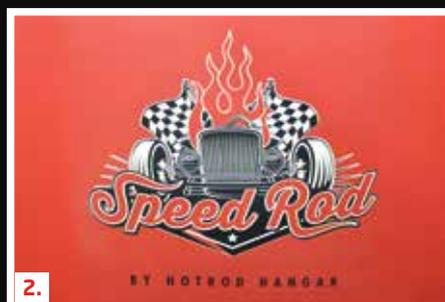
With the help of paint specialists Jörg Sandner, Frank Barduna and David Kukies from Spies Hecker's Technical Service, the entire car took two weeks to paint. The depiction of speed was derived from using Permahyd® Hi-TEC 480, RAL 3000 Fiery Red and then complemented by a custom-made

logo that carried a black and white chequered flag pattern, including flames that come out from the engine block.

"Projects like this only work with people who can think outside the box and can offer the best technical solutions in application. Thanks to Spies Hecker's Hi-TEC Performance System range and the incredible support of its technical team, the Speed Rod has the perfect finish," said Tiroch.

"We've been completely true to the Speed Rod's history in its restoration; there are no additions, not even one more screw than it would have had in its heyday,"

**- Knud Tiroch,**  
Austrian Airbrush Artist



2.

1. The vintage Ford A Roadster - Speed Rod
2. The Speed Rod's custom made logo

## PAINT WITH SPEED

### STEP 1

Best possible corrosion protection on the car body: Priomat® Wash Primer 4075, Permasolid® HS Vario Primer Surfacers 5340

### STEP 2

Reconstruction of the surfaces: Raderal® IR Premium Putty 2035, Raderal® Fine Putty

### STEP 3

Corrosion protection for sanded-through areas: Permasolid® HS Vario Primer Surfacers 5340

### STEP 4

Levelling of the surfaces, smoothing out irregularities: Raderal® Filler 3508

### STEP 5

Corrosion protection for sanded through areas, isolate, final finishing touches with Permasolid® HS Vario Primer Surfacers 5340

### STEP 6

Refinish: Permahyd® Hi-TEC Basecoat 480, Permasolid® Clear Coat



Image courtesy of Mike Korsos  
KOROS Photography

ENTER  
TO  
WIN

## YOUR ULTIMATE FINISH

Restorations like the 1923 Bugatti require great craftsmanship, patience and passion to achieve such amazing results. We recognise the incredible journey that is undertaken by both owner and refinisher to deliver the ultimate finish on a lifelong dream. Axalta would like to celebrate these stunning works of art through the Your Ultimate Finish competition (see back cover for more details), designed to allow great restorations, such as this magnificent 1923 Bugatti, to be showcased to all our readers. Not only are there great prizes on offer for the best restoration, but the winning restoration will also be showcased on the cover and celebrated inside the 20th Issue of The Ultimate Finish magazine.

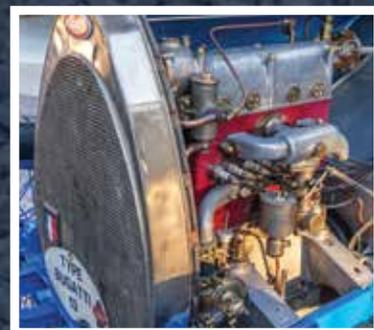
## The car that changed racing forever

Totally unique in its design, the Type 13 surprised the world of racing when it took second place at its French Grand Prix debut at Les Mans in 1911.

Created by Italian-born Ettore Bugatti, the distinctive Type 13 bucked all the popular trends for appearance, and was one of the first racecars to feature four valves per cylinder instead of two.

The Type 13's lightweight design and remarkable craftsmanship left all naysayers speechless when it took the top four places at the Voiturette Grand Prix at Brescia, Italy, in 1921.

It's estimated only 2000 Type 13's were produced, and today the model is so rare that the whereabouts of each one is recorded. In 2015, a Type 13 found in the barn of a French Abbey sold at auction for a record \$950,000.



1. Fully operational reconditioned engine

# TAKING A SHINE ON A BUGATTI TYPE 13

Loyal Cromax customers for nearly 20 years, the team at Goldmark Body Works on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland trusted no other brand when they restored a rare 1923 Bugatti racer's true colours.



1.

The French-built Type 13 has been a treasured member of the Freestone family for 50 years, discovered and restored by Mick's father in 1960. Nearly three decades after its last coat of paint, Mick turned to Goldmark Body Works to freshen up the iconic Grand Prix racer.

Selecting the perfect blue was not a straightforward process, explains owner Scott Millington. Historically, Bugatti's were painted in honour of the French national racing colour – but the official colour is unknown, because it was matched to the cigarette packet favoured by inventor Ettore Bugatti's wife. "The blue changed over the years, depending on the colour on the packaging," says Scott. "But we could have matched it if we had the right packet."

Instead, Scott colour-matched a photo Mick sourced of a European Bugatti. After stripping the car to bare metal, the Goldmark crew used the Cromax 840R VOC Epoxy Primer-Surfacer and the LE2004 High Build Primer to prepare the surface for the blue basecoat.

Attaining an authentic vintage finish also presented a challenge. The finishes available in the Bugatti's racing days were not as glossy as modern paints, so Scott experimented with matting out the gloss by mixing the Cromax 3050S Clear Coat with

AU175 Flattening Binder. "We did quite a few sprayouts to make sure Mick was happy," says Scott. "We were able to work with him to give him exactly what he wanted, how he wanted it done."

Now reassembled and ready to return home, Scott is satisfied that in the hands of his experienced crew, Cromax delivered an impeccable and authentic finish for his customer. "It was a privilege to work on a vehicle of that calibre," says Scott. "And the finish is beautiful, as we expected."

Mick is also thrilled with the results. "Being a very old and unusual car, the finish of the paint was important. I couldn't be happier with the result: it's authentic, and still looks like a top restoration project."

**Technical Consultant** - Geoff Stringfellow  
**Distributor** - Brisbane Refinish Supplies  
**Paint System** - Cromax Solvent



2.



3.

1. Left to right: The Gold Mark Bodyworks' Team - Bob, Cameron, Scott and Sam
2. Fully restored and detailed Bugatti
3. 1923 Bugatti before restoration



## SYNERGY AUTO REPAIRS

# GIVING YOUNG OFFENDERS A SECOND CHANCE

Almost three years ago, Synergy Auto Repairs in North Melbourne, Victoria, was founded by co-operations between Mission Australia, Suncorp and the National Motor Vehicle Theft Reduction Council, to combat the increasing number of vehicle thefts in the local area. Supported by industry leaders such as Axalta, the fully-functioning bodyshop cultivates a passion for cars into a future career.

The six-month placement at Synergy Auto Repairs provides these young students with a Certificate II qualification and a pathway into a four-year apprenticeship, where they are assisted with a workplace placement through Suncorp Insurance.

Troy Crellin, Program Manager for Social Enterprise at Mission Australia, works closely with Victoria Police, Youth Justice and children's courts to recruit young vehicle theft offenders. "We know that the kids love cars, and they might have done something potentially life-ruining, but we're trying to utilise that in a positive way so they can get their life back on track," Troy explains.

The successful program has changed the lives of over 50 young people aged 15 to 20 since its inception, many of whom come from families with a history of generational unemployment and dropping out of school at an early age.

Rather than sitting in a classroom, these young people are provided with on-the-job training by Synergy's qualified panel beaters and spray painters, and further supported by the Kangan Institute, who run weekly workshops in units of competency.

Axalta is a strong advocate of the initiative, with staff from Axalta's Campbellfield facility educating the students on paint technology and the role of their Cromax Pro waterborne paints in creating a sustainable future for the automotive industry.

Troy says he's grateful for the relationship with Axalta, who have shown a commitment to being readily available to assist with training and technical support. "Opening that door to us, to come out and offer training – it gives our students a real sense of self-worth, because they don't get many wins and they can see people going over and above for them," says Troy.

The innovative program also offers a solution to the ageing workforce in the automotive industry, providing ongoing assistance for apprentices to keep them on track in an industry where more than half of apprentices don't move into their second year.

Troy says he's proud of what their students are achieving. "The bodyshops they're placed with for their apprenticeships are saying their skills are above first-year apprentice levels," says Troy. "They are becoming contributing members of the workforce, which is a very positive turnaround."

**Technical Consultant** - Martin Steyn  
**Distributor** - Automotive Paint Supplies  
**Paint System** - Cromax Pro

1. Brandon and Matt in the spray booth
2. Opening of Synergy May 2014
3. Stuart Aisbett (Axalta) with students, Matt and Brandon





# HABIB BROS TRUCK & CAR SMASH REPAIRS PASSPORT COMPETENCY TRAINING FOR COMMERCIAL VEHICLES

1.

After launching Passport Competency Training in 2013, Axalta is celebrating a new milestone as our first commercial vehicle customer, Habib Bros Truck & Car Smash Repairs, graduates through the new program for commercial vehicles in 2016.

Based in the Western Sydney suburb of Austral, Habib Bros Truck & Car Smash Repairs is a second-generation family business that specialises in body repairs of trucks and cars, chassis and trailer repairs and rebranding of commercial vehicles. And, thanks to their loyal customers, have just celebrated 40 years in the industry.

The business is committed to staying ahead of the curve by adopting industry best practice procedures, confirms Joe Habib, which is why they enrolled in Axalta's Commercial Vehicle Passport Competency Training program this year.

All training in phase one, which is delivered using the Imron Fleet Line range, takes place face-to-face in the customer's own premises, giving them the opportunity to demonstrate their skills in their own familiar setting.

"We have six people on our team doing the Passport training and the guys are finding it very interesting, as it serves as a reminder and checklist of the best way to do things," Joe explains.

"It has been a great benefit to us – it's always good to be learning about and using the latest ideas and innovations, as it makes it easier and more efficient to run the business."

Passport Competency Training is a program run by Axalta to train and assess attendees, through a formal and structured process.

Just like a standard travelling passport, the Axalta Training Passport can expire, requiring refinishers to be assessed every twelve months for it to remain valid.

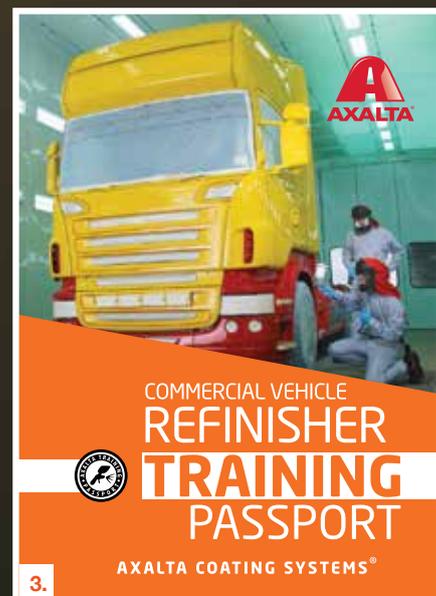
"If successful, attendees are issued their passport with a stamp confirming their completion of each module," explains Paul Polverino, Axalta's National Training Manager.

"As always, Axalta's Technical Training courses can earn I-CAR recognition points. Axalta is pleased to continue its support of I-CAR Australia with its Industry Training Alliance."

Passport training and assessments have been offered to select attendees in Australia since 2013, but the program has only just opened up to commercial vehicle repairers this year.



2.



COMMERCIAL VEHICLE  
REFINISHER  
TRAINING  
PASSPORT

AXALTA COATING SYSTEMS®

3.

1. All assessments are completed on customer's premises
2. Habib's premises where training is being conducted
3. Axalta's Commercial Vehicle Refinisher Training Passport

I-CAR  
AUSTRALIA



1.

## BC SPRAY TECH

# MIGHTY MACHINES FINISHED WITH NASON INDUSTRIAL

From towering mining equipment to runabout cars, BC Spray Tech are specialists in a range of automotive and industrial equipment services. Now, with the Nason Industrial system in their toolkit, they're well equipped to deliver outstanding results with greater cost efficiency.

Driving through Yatala in Southern Queensland, BC Spray Tech is hard to miss. A company established over a decade ago and owned by Ben Jarvis and Michelle Carey for the past two years. The site BC Spray Tech occupies features one of the largest spray booths in the southern hemisphere and an impressive sandblast booth – a necessity, given the scale of the machines that come through the workshop doors.

“We have a pretty broad range of vehicles and equipment through,” says Ben. “We have heavy machinery and steel structures, and we make signs and decals. We do everything from concrete pumps, excavators, loaders, dozers, rubbish trucks and cars.”

The impressive array of services provided by BC Spray Tech extends to refurbishing, sandblasting, metal fabrication, boiler work and machine cleaning.

“We have a contract with Ritchie Bros Auctioneers too, who deal in heavy equipment,” says Ben. “We’ve been servicing all their needs and painting their gear for the past ten years.”

Eighteen months ago, BC Spray Tech made the choice to adopt the Nason Industrial range as their primary paint system, seeking greater price efficiency and versatility.

Nason Industrial is known for both: it is specifically formulated to meet the needs of the industrial market at an economic price point, using modern resin technology to give greater flexibility in creating the ideal finish for each job.

For durable topcoats, BC Spray Tech uses the Nason Industrial 610 2K, which is designed to withstand harsh environmental conditions and contains anti-corrosion properties. They have also adopted the range of primers and Cromax basecoats for enhanced metallic finishes.

The integration of the paint system has been a positive one, with the BC Spray Tech staff achieving excellent finishes with the versatility they were hoping for.

Ben says that the customer support they’ve received from their distributor and Axalta technical consultants, assisted with smoothing out the transition to the new paint system. “When we started, a technical consultant came out and did some demonstrations onsite to train the staff,” Ben explains. “And they’ve offered us full technical support.”

BC Spray Tech is recognised for its quick turnaround and quality services, which they plan to continue with their new Nason Industrial partnership.



2.

**Technical Consultant** - Michael Venner  
**BDM** - Glenn Holloway  
**Distributor** - Oz Trade Supplies  
**Paint System** - Nason Industrial

1 & 2. BC Spray Tech's spray booth is one of the largest in the southern hemisphere

# SAILFISH CATAMARANS BEST IN CLASS

After winning Australia's Greatest Boat competition Trade-A-Boat two years in a row, and making the final yet again for 2017, Darren Foster of Sailfish Catamarans is proud of his business's enviable reputation as one of the best in the industry.

Sailfish Catamarans started in 1993, with two staff producing five boats a year. Since then, their operation has grown to 21 staff manufacturing 30-35 boats per year. Their clients include professional fishermen, commercial operators, abalone divers, maritime services and recreational boaters.

As a manufacturer of aluminium catamarans competing against fibreglass boat builders, finish is extremely important at Sailfish.

"People spending \$200-300K on a boat expect the best finish. We've been known to have the best aluminium finish in the country for a number of years now," says Darren.

Sailfish use the Imron® paint system on their boats. They were first introduced to the system through a government contract around three years ago.

"After using it once we realised the quality of the finish. We were using 15% less material per boat and the finish was just incredible.

The depth, gloss levels, the flatness of the paint, just looks magic."

Since then, Darren says spectators at boat shows constantly comment on the finish, unable to tell whether their boats are fibreglass or aluminium.

In 2015 and 2016, Sailfish Catamarans won the Trade-A-Boat competition with their S7 and S8 respectively and they are now in the final for 2017.

"Winning three years in a row is impossible. But, we'll give it a crack," says Darren.

**Technical Consultant** - Michael Venner

**BDM** - Glenn Holloway

**Distributor** - Oz Trade Supplies

**Paint System** - Imron



1.



2.

1 & 2. Sailfish Catamarans at the 2016 Sydney Boat Show

# NEW LIFE FOR RETIRED AEROBATICS JET

A team of volunteers from the Historical Aircraft Restoration Society (HARS) in NSW brought a broken ex-RAAF Macchi Jet Trainer back to life using Nason Industrial paints. In April this year, it took pride of place as 'gate guardian' at the facility's front door.

With the efforts of 500+ members, HARS' Albion Park Rail facility proudly showcases Australia's aviation history through the 40 modern and historical aircraft it has refurbished to date.

Society members, Bob Black and Noel Roberts, a former spray painter, spearheaded the Macchi project. "It was used by the Royal Australian Air Force's aerobatic team, called the Roulettes," he explains. "When we got it, it was just the fuselage and the cockpit."

Parts and Accessories Manager, Greg Mackenzie, from Illawarra Toyota – local distributor of Axalta paints – was pleased to be

involved in the project, assisting with the paints Noel used to give the jet its magnificent finish.

After sourcing parts and painstakingly piecing the plane together, Noel used the Nason Industrial All-Purpose Etch Primer for the bare aluminium, two coats of Epoxy Primer and the Nason FulThane 2K to spray the top coat.

"The finish is absolutely superb," says Noel proudly. "We've got some nice planes here, but none of them look as good as the Macchi. It's really beautiful; I would recommend these paints to anyone."

1. Ex-RAAF Macchi Jet Trainer at Albion Park Rail Museum

The stunning Macchi jet has been installed on a pole above the main doors to welcome guests to the museum.

**Technical Consultant** - Andrew Cutler

**Distributor** - Illawarra Toyota

**Paint System** - Nason Industrial

## NEW BRIDGES

# A LEAP FORWARD FOR AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE

The Australian Defence Force (ADF) will soon gain significant new traction when it comes to traversing tough terrain, with the addition of new portable bridges supplied by UK-based tactical bridge manufacturer WFEL – who selected Axalta’s military paint system as their finish of choice.

World leaders in tactical bridge manufacturing, WFEL is contracted to supply two types of bridges as part of the ADF’s Land 155 Program. The project will give land forces the ability to cross difficult terrain including rivers and ravines during combat scenarios or natural disasters.

The double-storey Medium Girder Bridge can be assembled by hand onsite or flown to location by helicopter, and the highly-mechanised Dry Support Bridges can be quickly deployed by eight personnel in 90 minutes.

The modular bridges have been custom designed by WFEL to meet Australia’s standards for Biosecurity and stringent military requirements, and integrated onto a Rheinmetall chassis to suit the transport capabilities of the ADF’s existing fleet of vehicles.

In conjunction with advanced paint technology designed to withstand the elements, Axalta also offered a strong training and support package to WFEL for the duration of the build. Technical Consultant Matt Carlin is a member of Axalta’s Australian based military team who travelled to the manufacturing facility in Stockport to deliver hands-on training with the paint staff.

“It’s important they’re skilled in the correct application methods, because the paint has special technology to give it near-infrared reflectants,” explains Matt. The reflective coating reduces surface temperature and lowers mechanical stress, as well as being durable and weather-resistant.

“We’ve thoroughly tested all aspects, including paint thickness, gloss levels and adhesion. Everything has passed our exacting standards.”

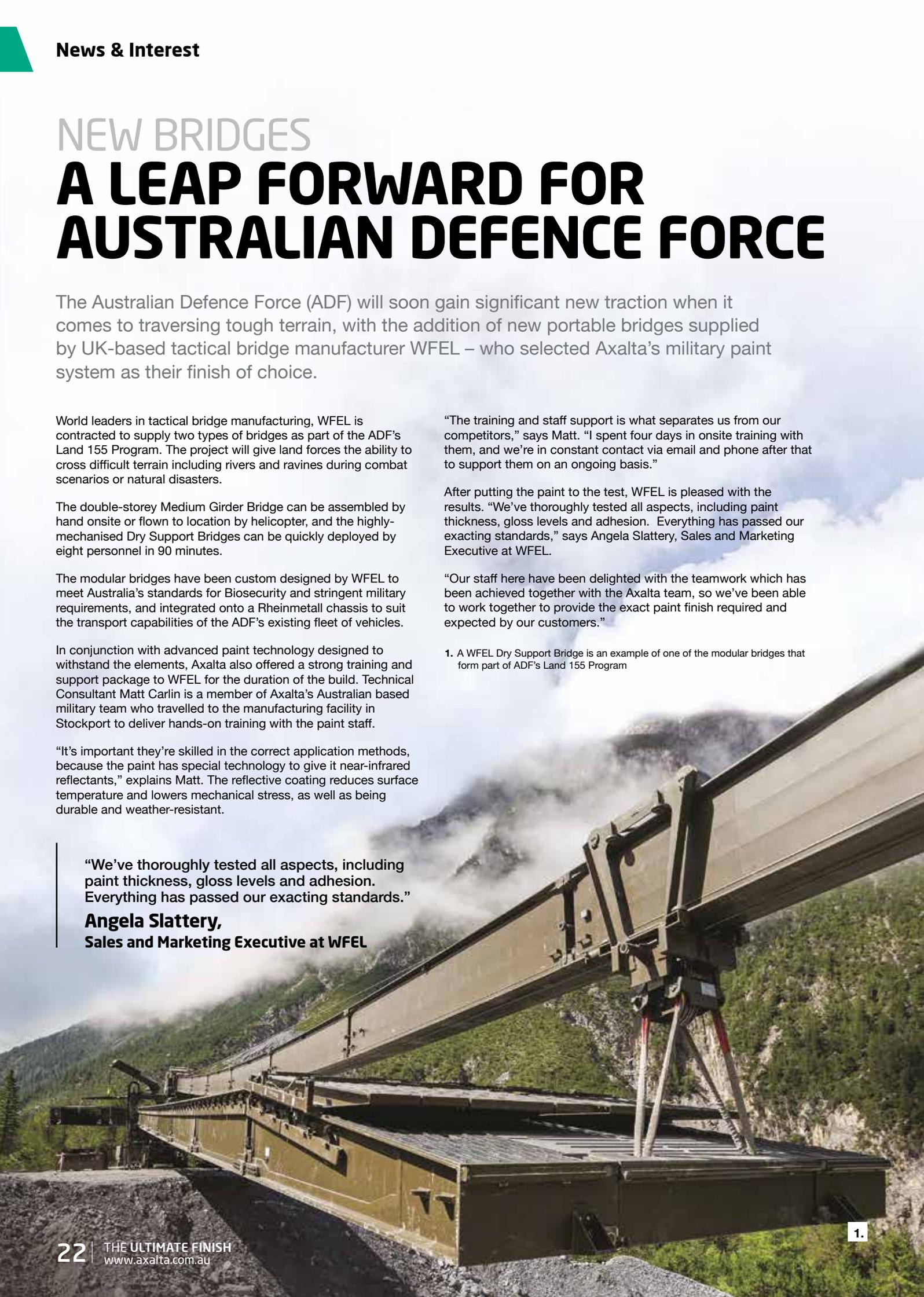
**Angela Slattery,**  
Sales and Marketing Executive at WFEL

“The training and staff support is what separates us from our competitors,” says Matt. “I spent four days in onsite training with them, and we’re in constant contact via email and phone after that to support them on an ongoing basis.”

After putting the paint to the test, WFEL is pleased with the results. “We’ve thoroughly tested all aspects, including paint thickness, gloss levels and adhesion. Everything has passed our exacting standards,” says Angela Slattery, Sales and Marketing Executive at WFEL.

“Our staff here have been delighted with the teamwork which has been achieved together with the Axalta team, so we’ve been able to work together to provide the exact paint finish required and expected by our customers.”

1. A WFEL Dry Support Bridge is an example of one of the modular bridges that form part of ADF’s Land 155 Program





## AXALTA & GHS

For Axalta, the transition to GHS will impact both our Safety Data Sheets (SDS) and labels.

New SDS will be provided to you by your Axalta representative by the end of 2016. These will be provided in electronic format for loading on multiple computers or for you to print as you require. Details on how to easily access SDS online will also be provided.

GHS labels are currently being rolled out and we are working with our distributors to ensure compliant products will be delivered to you in the time frame required.

Rest assured, Axalta consultants and distributors are on hand to guide you through the process.



A short video explaining these changes is available at [www.axalta.com.au/ghs](http://www.axalta.com.au/ghs)



# ARE YOU GHS READY?

### What is GHS?

Global Harmonised System (GHS) is an international standard for the classification and labelling of hazardous substances and chemicals.



### What do I need to do?

Ensure:

- You have updated Safety Data Sheets (SDS) with GHS pictograms
- New chemicals delivered after 31 December 2016 have GHS compliant labelling
- From 1 January 2017 end users (direct consumers of these chemicals) are **NOT** required to relabel or dispose of **EXISTING** hazardous chemical stock
- For more information please go to [www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au](http://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au) and go to WHS information tab.



### Time Frame:

Your business must be GHS compliant by 31 December 2016.\*



From 1 January 2017, all businesses\* must comply with the new GHS system for chemical classification.



1. An example of the new GHS labelling

\*Note - VIC and WA have not yet adopted this legislation.

## CLASSIC PAINT & HARDWARE SUPPLIES PARTNERS WITH AXALTA

Classic Paint and Hardware Supplies brings a full range of quality refinish and industrial products from Axalta Coating Systems to the Fijian market.

Axalta's Regional Technical Consultant Michael Barrie, was instrumental in identifying Classic Paint and Hardware Supplies as the best fit for the Fijian market. The newly formed partnership with Axalta Coating Systems, enables Classic Paint and Hardware Supplies to provide a full range of quality products to its customers that will help them improve efficiency and productivity, as well as allow the materials coated to last longer.

Axalta's refinish brand Cromax, plus Challenger clears and primers, Sagola spray guns and Audurra sand-papers and polishes are just some of the brands that Classic Paint and Hardware Supplies will take to the Fijian market.

A range of products designed to provide Fijian collision repairers with versatile and easy-to-use refinishing systems for maximum bodyshop performance, no matter the size or type of repair.

Mohammed Harun, Managing Director and Zainal Haroon, Director of Classic Paint and Hardware Supplies, explain that when it comes to automotive paints, Fijian repairers "are looking for practical and proven solutions." "It's the important things, such as a great colour match on the first attempt that keeps painters happy and ultimately saves time and money. The Cromax system adeptly delivers this and more," they report.

To complement the great products offered by Classic Paint and Hardware Supplies, ongoing training, technical application support, colour matching plus cutting-edge digital colour tools will also be provided to help bodyshops drive their business forward.

1. Classic Paint and Hardware Supplies' team
2. Cromax brand of products provide Fijian collision repairers with an easy-to-use refinishing system



# GOOD HEALTH IS WORTH A LITTLE TIME

Thanks to the European VOC directive, many potentially harmful substances have either been completely eliminated from modern paint products or have dramatically diminished. Nonetheless, personal protective equipment (PPE) is mandatory for all paintwork. In fact, wearing it should be a matter of course in the interest of health. It offers protection against harmful substances entering the body via the airways, skin or eyes.

## TIP 1

### Always be aware of the chemicals

Even experienced professional refinishers frequently underestimate the health risks associated with the use of paint products. Many may even still remember the days when wearing protective equipment in the spray booth was not strictly enforced. But refinishers should be aware that they are handling chemical substances that shouldn't really come into contact with the body. Don't take the health risks lightly.

## TIP 2

### Always wear the recommended PPE

Personal protection equipment includes overalls, gloves, safety glasses, safety boots and respiratory protection. They are designed to offer protection against particles, organic gases and fumes during the preparation, painting and finishing phases. Ear protection should also be worn when using pneumatically or electrically operated machines. Always follow the user information and safety advice for every product. Wear all the required protective gear at all times, even if under time pressure.

## TIP 3

### Protection starts outside the spray booth

Many refinishers associate health hazards with work in the spray booth, which is understandable, but wrong. Refinishers should protect themselves even during the preparation phase. And it is especially important to wear appropriate respiratory protection when sanding, to stop inhaling microscopic dust particles that are created during the process. Respiratory protection is also recommended when mixing paint.

## TIP 4

### Protective face masks offer the best protection

For work in the spray booth face masks that cover the entire face and are force-ventilated, are recommended. That means the face masks the refinishers wear are supplied with clean air via an airline inside the booth. This type of face mask has the advantage of being light and offering wearers no resistance when breathing, so they can be worn without any time limit. Face masks not only protect the airways, but also eyes, facial skin and hair.



1. Sagola® 5300 Purifying Filter with regulator provides the latest in purification and regulation technology to help protect airways, eyes, facial skin and hair.

## TIP 5

### Make sure equipment is in perfect condition

Refinishers should always ensure protective equipment is in perfect condition. As soon as any damage, such as holes or defective fastenings are noticed, repair or fully replace damaged or worn parts. Activated carbon filters must be changed regularly. It is also important to be careful when storing personal protective equipment. Masks in particular should be stored in air-tight containers that are free of dust and protected from solvent fumes. Do not leave them lying around exposed near waste water basins or in the mixing room, otherwise the activated carbon filters will become saturated with pollutants contained in the ambient air and will only offer limited protection.

## TIP 6

### Set an example for safety at work and raise awareness

Nothing leads to dangerous negligence more quickly than a colleague who does not adhere to the rules. That is why it should be common practice in every bodyshop to discuss safety at work at regular intervals and to systematically prevent violations of the safety rules. Technical Data Sheets also contain safety and health tips.

Axalta offers partner bodyshops targeted advice on the environment, health and safety as part of its Refinish Performance Management offer. Please contact your local Technical Consultant for further information.

# SAGOLA'S 4100 GTO

## THE GREAT ALL-ROUNDER

Often described as the great all-rounder, the Sagola 4100 GTO gun is perfect for a range of applications including waterborne and solvent basecoat, 2K Solids, MS and HS clear coats and wet-on-wet primers.

The 4100 GTO is based on the premium single shaft system found in the premium Sagola Xtreme model series, but with a more simplified design. Its sleek body is made from highly resistant anodized aluminium, making it superlight yet robust. Ergonomically designed, the 4100 GTO provides an enviable balance and ease of use, regardless of whether you're right-handed or left-handed.

Equipped with 1.4 nozzle and high-transfer GTO Tech air cap, the 4100 GTO gives perfect high speed spraying with greater than 65% transfer efficiency, which can

improve overall paint consumption. 1.3 and 1.4 nozzle with GTO HVLP air cap are available as add-ons.

Sagola is currently the only spray gun manufacturer for the refinish market that manufactures without any kind of gasket, interior or exterior, at the closures between the air and paint. Not only does this render the 4100 GTO maintenance free, it minimises the number of spare parts required and reduces any distractions the painter may encounter.

One of the key benefits of the 4100 GTO is the value factor. Often if a needle, nozzle or an air cap gets damaged, you'll need to replace all three items. With all latest model Sagola guns, you can either purchase a replacement needle and nozzle as a set, or purchase the individual air cap. The cost savings are significant!

Contact your local Axalta distributor today for more information or visit [www.sagola.com.au](http://www.sagola.com.au)



**SAGOLA** 

## AXALTA COLOUR INSPECTOR

# MAKING COLOUR MATCHING MORE ACCURATE



1. Axalta Colour Inspector

The new wireless daylight lamp, the Axalta Colour Inspector, provides fast and accurate colour matching at the touch of a button.

With energy-saving LEDs, powerful batteries and ergonomic handling, the Axalta Colour Inspector is an invaluable cost and time saving tool for the professional bodyshop.

When choosing the right colour for repairing paint damage, the ambient light plays a crucial role. Usually the workshop lighting is not sufficient on its own for reliable colour identification.

"Sometimes two colours can look identical in normal workshop light, but they can differ from each other quite considerably in midday or in early evening light," says John Nettleton, Axalta's Product and Colour Manager. "This effect is called metamerism and is not often visible until the finished car is driven away from the workshop."

The Axalta Colour Inspector not only mimics bright natural daylight but also, thanks to a second integrated light source, it can recreate a lower level light by the simple push of a button.

The intensity of the energy-saving LEDs can be set to three different levels, adapting to different colour shades exceptionally well. As a result the Axalta Colour Inspector, can be used for almost anything, from colour comparison with colour swatches and sample panels to damage assessment. It can also help with checking freshly painted surfaces before the application of the clear coat by detecting defects, such as dust inclusions, sanding marks or small imperfections in the finish.

Once taken off its stand, the powerful battery ensures the cordless lamp can be used for up to four hours without the need to be constantly recharged. Due to the low energy consumption of the LEDs, the battery can handle a long day's work and can be re-charged within two-and-a-half hours. Thanks to its minimal weight and ergonomic shape, the lamp is comfortable to handle with an easy grip and will support refinishers' work.

Contact your local Axalta distributor today for more information or visit [www.axalta.com.au/axaltacolourinspector](http://www.axalta.com.au/axaltacolourinspector)



## JJ PERFORMANCE SMASH REPAIRS 25 YEARS WITH SPIES HECKER

With a swag of awards under their belt, JJ Performance Smash Repairs has come a long way since launching as a one-man shop – and Spies Hecker has been with them for the journey.

Operating in the rural township of Bargo, New South Wales, JJ Performance Smash Repairs has grown a lot since its humble beginnings as a one-man operation.

“At the tender age of 20 years old, I launched the business in the quiet rural town of Bargo in July 1990,” explains owner and director, Jason Legg. “Currently our business has 10 staff, a small tow truck, and a loan car fleet!”

With an industry background as a spray painter and panel beater, Jason and his wife Michelle have built their business with quality and service as their core focus.

“Spies Hecker has played a huge role in our success as a quality repair shop. It is a very big ask of any material when you are priming, forced drying, spraying and sometimes also buffing in one day. But Spies Hecker’s products hold up well to this challenge,” Jason says.

They have been using the Spies Hecker solvent range for 25 years. By partnering with quality suppliers such as Spies Hecker, Jason says they are confident in their offering and have achieved gold repairer status with a number of insurance companies. They have also gone on to win a number of industry awards.

“2016 has been a huge year for our business. When we were nominated for the Australian Small Business Awards in the Automotive Services category we were honoured. But to then win the National Champion Award for the category was a complete shock – it was such an awesome feeling!” Jason says.

“Last year, we won the ‘Overall Business of the Year’ award for our Camden Wollondilly Local Business Awards, and in 2014, we won ‘Business Person of the Year’. We have actually been award winners since 2009 in our automotive category, which has been fantastic – these awards are a great moral booster for our employees.”

They are not content to rest on their laurels, however, as Jason says the business is always looking for ways to grow and explore new opportunities.

One such example is their diversification into different services: JJ Performance Smash Repairs offers a ‘car spa’ service, pick up and drop off services, loan cars and towing.

“We even give a complimentary car detail after every repair,” Jason says.

He adds that with modern customers spending more and more time online, having a website and Facebook presence is very important to their business.

“People who are new to our growing community get to know who we are through social media,” he says. “We also use our social media presence to educate our customers in relation to repairs, and to show them what we do to support and build relationships within our local community.”



1. JJ Performance Smash Repairs’ premises  
2. JJ Performance Smash Repairs winners of the Camden Wollondilly Local Business Awards for 2014 and 2015



**SPIES HECKER**

**Coorparoo Paint & Panel**  
COORPAROO, QLD



**SPIES HECKER**

**JJ Performance Smash Repairs**  
BARGO, NSW

**R W & D A Carins**  
LAUNCESTON, TAS



**SPIES HECKER**

**Byron Classic Paint & Panel**  
BYRON BAY, NSW

**Maughan Thiem Ford**  
CHELTENHAM, SA

**North Rocky Autos**  
ROCKHAMPTON, QLD

**CROMAX**

**Wilson's Panel Works**  
TOOWOOMBA, QLD



**STANDOX**

**D&T Panelbeating**  
OSBORNE PARK, WA

**SPIES HECKER**

**Elchaars Accident Repair Centre**  
FAIRY MEADOW, NSW

**Millmerran Body Works**  
MILLMERRAN, QLD

**Raymond Panel Beaters**  
GOONDIWINDI, QLD

**Roslyn Motors Body Works**  
KINGS CROSS, NSW

**CROMAX**

**Brisbane Bus Lines**  
ENOGGERA, QLD

**Professional Panel & Paint**  
DANDENONG, VIC



**SPIES HECKER**

**AB Panel & Paint**  
SOUTHPORT, QLD

**ABC Bodyworks**  
ALBION PARK, QLD

**New Life Vinyl & Leather Service**  
VERMONT, VIC

**Pro Finish Car Repairs**  
WERRIBEE, VIC

**Ray Zahl Refinishers**  
MOOROOKA, QLD

**St Kilda Village Smash Repairs**  
WINDSOR, VIC

**CROMAX**

**Classic Dent Repairs**  
BAHRS SCRUB, QLD

**McCormack's Auto Service**  
SANDGATE, QLD

**The Peel Paint Place**  
MANDURAH, WA



**SPIES HECKER**

**Detroit Custom Bodyworks**  
ARNCLIFFE, NSW

**Parsons Motor & Bodyshop**  
CASTLEMAINE, VIC

**CROMAX**

**3 Gen Auto Repairs**  
REGENTS PARK, QLD

**Errol Wood**  
HOME HILL, QLD

**Mansfield Smash Repairs**  
MANSFIELD, NSW

**Northside Sandblasting & Painting**  
NUDGEE, QLD

**NSC Freighters**  
LAE, QLD

**Platinum Restorations**  
CLONTARF, QLD

**Randalls Smash Repairs**  
MAITLAND, NSW

**Southern Autos Crash Repairs**  
TWEED HEADS SOUTH, NSW

**Viking Prestige**  
VARSITY LAKES, QLD

**Western General Body Works**  
SUNSHINE NORTH, VIC



# Your Ultimate Finish

For car enthusiasts a restoration is more than just a hobby, it is very much an art form that can take months, if not years to achieve the ultimate finish. Axalta would like to celebrate your incredible work of art by showing it off on the front cover of the **20th Issue of The Ultimate Finish** with an accompanying story about the restoration.

All you have to do is send us before and after shots of your car's restoration by Monday, 1 May 2017.



Entry into this competition is free. All entries will be independently judged. 1st Prize 20 Gold Class Tickets to share with friends, family and colleagues plus runner up prizes.

The winners will be announced on Monday, 3 July 2017. To find out more about the competition, including Terms and Conditions please go to [www.axalta.com.au/yourultimatefinish](http://www.axalta.com.au/yourultimatefinish). Good Luck!

**1800 292 582 (AXALTA)**