

TUF

THE ULTIMATE FINISH

ISSUE 34 MARCH 2023

A
AXALTA
axalta.com.au



IN THIS ISSUE

AXALTA'S NEW MATT CLEAR SYSTEM
FABULOUS FERRARI WINS GLOBAL RECOGNITION
WHEN AUTOMOTIVE PAINT BECOMES ART
SUPPORTING HANWHA'S HUNTSMAN

Your Passion.
Our Coatings.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- 3 More Women Taking Up Trades
- 4-5 Collision 1 Wins Excellence Award
- 6-7 Matt Finishing Made Easy
- 8 Sea Shepherd - Battle Ready
- 9 Coach's Corner
- 10-11 Caetano Bodyworks Restorations
- 12-13 Habib Bros Work-of-Art
- 13 WorldSkills Nationals
- 14 Volgren - Keeping NSW Moving
- 15 Colour of the Year - Techno Blue
- 16 Smits Group - Mobile Tint Room
- 16 Tech Tips - Spectro Maintenance
- 17 Hanwha Defense Australia's Huntsman
- 18 Le Mans Carbay - 30 Years
- 19 Recognition Awards Listing

Magazine Contributors

Editor-in-Chief	Steven Brett
Editorial	Joanne Abraham
Co-ordinators	and Nancy Lane
Art Director	Cat Green
Copywriters	Veronica Miller and Mandy Sando

Do you have a great story?

We'd love to hear it!
Email info-anz@axalta.com
or call **1800 292 582**.

Follow us on Social Media

Did you know Axalta Australia and New Zealand has a presence on multiple social media channels? Follow us today to stay up-to-date with the latest industry and product news.



A MESSAGE FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR



Your Passion. Our Coatings.

In our first issue of 2023, we are well and truly into what is panning out to be a successful year. There have been many interesting projects coming through from our customers, and we are always pleased to showcase the hard work and determination that these projects entail.

This issue features a unique art piece undertaken at Habib Bros in Sydney, which is now on show at the Art Gallery of NSW's Sydney Modern Project precinct. Read about it on page 12. Another interesting read is about the MV Steve Irwin ship that is currently exhibited on the Brisbane River, where U-POL products were used to restore the deck (see page 8).

We are excited to be launching our new Matt Clear system! Read how this best-in-class system is going to set the bar high for quality results with its ability to match to a wide range of gloss levels, on page 6.

And finally, we are celebrating the achievements of Caetano Bodyworks' award-winning 355 Ferrari restoration at the 2022 annual Ferrari Concorso d'Eleganza Gala (page 10), and Collision 1 winning Best New Shop award in the 2022 Paint & Panel Bodyshop Awards (page 4). Congratulations to both customers on their outstanding achievements.

Enjoy the read.

Steven Brett
Managing Director
Axalta Coating Systems



Published by Axalta Coating Systems.

© 2023 Axalta Coating Systems LLC and its affiliates. Third party logos are property of their respective owners. All rights reserved.

Axalta Coating Systems 16 Darling Street, Marsden Park NSW 2765 T 1800 292 582 (AXALTA) E info-anz@axalta.com



ENCOURAGING MORE WOMEN TO TAKE UP A TRADE

Madison Goulding, a 24-year-old fourth-year spray painting apprentice at Polo Smash Repairs in Sydney's Mona Vale, was selected to appear in the NSW Department of Education's promotional video to showcase and encourage women to take up a trade.

The NSW Government is focused on increasing female representation across all trades, recognising that women only make up two percent of qualified trade workers. Increasing the number of female trade workers will help to address critical labour shortages and provide long-term economic benefits to industry and families.

"The TAFE contacted us to let us know about the opportunity and explained the process. The intent of the video was to encourage more women to enter the trades and Madison was quite willing to do that. The process included photography, video and interviews with Madison. In the video, Madison describes her experiences and how's she finding the job," said Colin Hallinan, owner of Polo Smash Repairs.

Colin is dedicated to encouraging and supporting new talent and apprentices, and has supported numerous apprentices through his years in business, including his son Josh. Josh completed his apprenticeship as a panel beater with his father 15 years ago, and now runs the family's original shop, Col's Body Shop in West Ryde. This family business is in its third generation.

"Col's Body Shop was established 60 years ago by my grandparents Colin and Dot Hallinan," explained Josh. "Dad opened Polo Smash Repairs about 30 years ago and he runs Polo Smash while I manage Col's Body Shop."

Both shops complete insurance and private smash repair work using Cromax. There are close to 40 staff across the two sites, with spray painters, panel beaters and office staff, including five apprentices.

Colin is also passionate about giving back to the community and sponsors various community groups and organisations. He's closely involved with the local football, golf and surf clubs.

"We are well known in the area and we believe in helping out and giving back where we can," Josh concluded.



*Pictured: Madison during video shoot.
Left Top: Colin and daughter Paige at Polo Smash.
Left: Madison hard at work.*



STUNNING NEW SHOP WINS EXCELLENCE AWARD

Third-generation family business Collision 1 wins Australia's Best New Shop in the 2022 Paint & Panel Bodyshop Awards.

Collision 1 is a purpose-built bodyshop in Wangara, in Perth's northern suburbs. Father and son owners Paul and Lachlan Smith were contemplating expanding on their current site at Midland, before being contacted by their insurance company, Royal Automobile Club (RAC). The aim was to replicate the outstanding results of Paul's original Midland shop.

"Collision 1 is our second shop," explained Lachlan Smith. "We were contracted by RAC to establish a shop in the Wangara region and we began the search for a suitable property."

Once found, it required significant renovations.

"In just under a year, we knocked down and rebuilt the office section, gutted and rebuilt the workshop. We were very happy with the results, despite the challenges in the building industry at the time."

The team consulted with Axalta, who reserved a Spies Hecker Speed-TEC system for installation once building works were completed.

"We've been using Spies Hecker in the Midland shop for about five years and we really like the Speed-TEC system. Everyone should be using this technology, if they aren't, they're missing out," said painter, Lewis Skipper.

"The clear coat is very fast but it's the primer that we really like as it cures in five to seven minutes on half power - it's super-fast and goes off on its own without having to use UV," said Lachlan.

The shop was designed to maximise efficiency, with carefully thought-out flow, from accepting the work at the front of the shop to detailing at the back. Collision 1 is managed using 1Q1 for workflow, 1Q2 for estimating and 1Q3 for parts management, the first shop to use this complete system.

"The software, designed by my father Paul, provides us with full visibility over the whole shop, and 1Q1 has facilitated high volumes of work, which is the insurance game these days."



The team at Collision 1



Above: Front of Collision 1.



Above: 9.5m Alfa Elite paint booth.



Above: Collision 1 signage.

In addition to the new Wangara shop, the family have been running Midland Smash Repairs for nearly 60 years. Established by Lachlan's grandfather and grandmother, this bodyshop has operated out of its current premises since 1989 and has been expanded multiple times as the business grew, and now operates out of five buildings on a 8600sqm site.

When designing the layout and workflow for the Collision 1 site, Paul and Lachlan drew heavily on the experience and lessons from the Midland site to provide an end-to-end customer experience. Customers at Collision 1 enjoy a seamless drop off at the front entrance, where they can also jump straight into a hire car to picking up their detailed car once the work has been completed.

Between the two premises, Paul and Lachlan employ 65 staff, who are dedicated to continuing to deliver high quality services to Perth's motorists.

Distributor: Global Autocoat WA

Paint System: Spies Hecker Permahyd Hi-TEC



Permasolid®
Speed-TEC

NO SYSTEM IS FASTER!

Lewis Skipper at Collision 1 is a huge fan of the Spies Hecker Speed-TEC range.

"Everyone should be using this technology, if they aren't, they're missing out."

The Speed-TEC system's primers, basecoats and clear coats work together to improve bodyshop efficiency and deliver on:

HIGHER VEHICLE THROUGHPUT

Faster drying times reduce booth times enormously. Operations become more efficient and bodyshops can repair more vehicles per day.

REDUCED ENERGY COSTS

Booth temperatures can be set at 40°C or 20°C for drying at times when job volumes are lower, which will consistently reduce energy costs.

LOW INVESTMENT

Spray booths that are no longer able to reach a bake temperature of 60°C do not need to be retrofitted. Shorter drying times at lower temperatures can avoid or delay greater investment and increased infrastructure costs.

E-CAR FRIENDLY

Drying at lower temperatures is the gentle way to refinish cars, making it an ideal solution for electric or hybrid cars with sensitive electronics. This technology will save the lifetime of batteries and other components.

MATT FINISHING MADE EASY!

Reproducing matt finishes just got a whole lot easier with the latest Matt Clear system.

Alongside the widest range of gloss levels in the industry, this new Matt Clear system also features easy handling and robust application for panel, multi-panel or overall repairs in any climate condition.

***"This best-in-class system sets the bar high for high-quality results, with an excellent homogenous, uniform finish and no patchiness."** says Jim Iliopoulos, Product and Technical Manager ANZ.*

The system consists of two clear coats - a matt clear and a satin clear that, when combined, can provide six matt levels from matt (5GU) through to semi matt (65GU). Using the Acquire spectrophotometer, in conjunction with Axalta's advanced digital colour management software, the refinisher can quickly and easily identify the correct matt colour and the applicable gloss level within the colour formula.

When it comes to application, the clear is applied in a two-coat process, similar to that of an MS clear coat, with an intermediate flash-off and final flash-off of 15 minutes each. The clear coat system can be used over waterborne or solventborne basecoat and there is no special elastic additive required for plastic substrates.

"Refinishers will not only benefit from incredibly reliable results, but will also gain from a significant reduction of up to 35% in drying times compared to existing systems, helping with energy savings," adds Jim.

Axalta's new Matt Clear system technology is now available in our premium brands. Talk to your Axalta representative or distributor for more information or visit axalta.au/mattclear



NEW!

STANDOX

Standocryl 2K System Clear Satin Gloss K9140 and Standocryl 2K System Clear Super Matt K9150.



NEW!

SPIES HECKER

Permacron Semi-Gloss System Clear Coat 8170 and Permacron Matt System Clear Coat 8185.



NEW!

CROMAX

CC6010 Chroma Semi Matt System Clear and CC6020 Chroma Matt System Clear.



TIPS FOR ACHIEVING THE PERFECT MATT FINISH:

- To obtain the best spectro reading, ensure the car is clean and the area selected is undamaged, free of scratches and surface contamination, and is as close to the repair area as possible. Use a waterborne cleaner to prepare the area for a spectro reading.
- When retrieving the best match formula from the colour software, select the option for flat or matt finish. The software will recommend the best matt level grouping to use. From here you can find the right mixing ratios based on the basecoat being used (solvent or waterborne).
- We encourage you to spray out a sample, using the largest spray card possible, before applying on the vehicle. Ensure the application method is identical to the one you will use. Although the matt mix is specific to the car, there are other variables that can impact the final gloss level such as OEM variation, age of the car, natural weathering and overall care and maintenance of the car.
- When comparing your spray out to the vehicle, do this in good daylight conditions. Matt colours absorb light and reveal mistakes more readily than high gloss colours. Use the correct undercoat colour as stated by the software to ensure the best coverage.
- We strongly advise weighing across the scale to ensure the correct mix of matt/semi matt clear. And always stir the clear coat well before mixing. If in doubt refer to the TDS which includes a chart that gives guidance on mixing ratios to achieve different gloss levels.

Our European training team, along with application expert Tony Mitchell, have put together a great video on Matt Clear application for each of our premium brands.



STANDOX

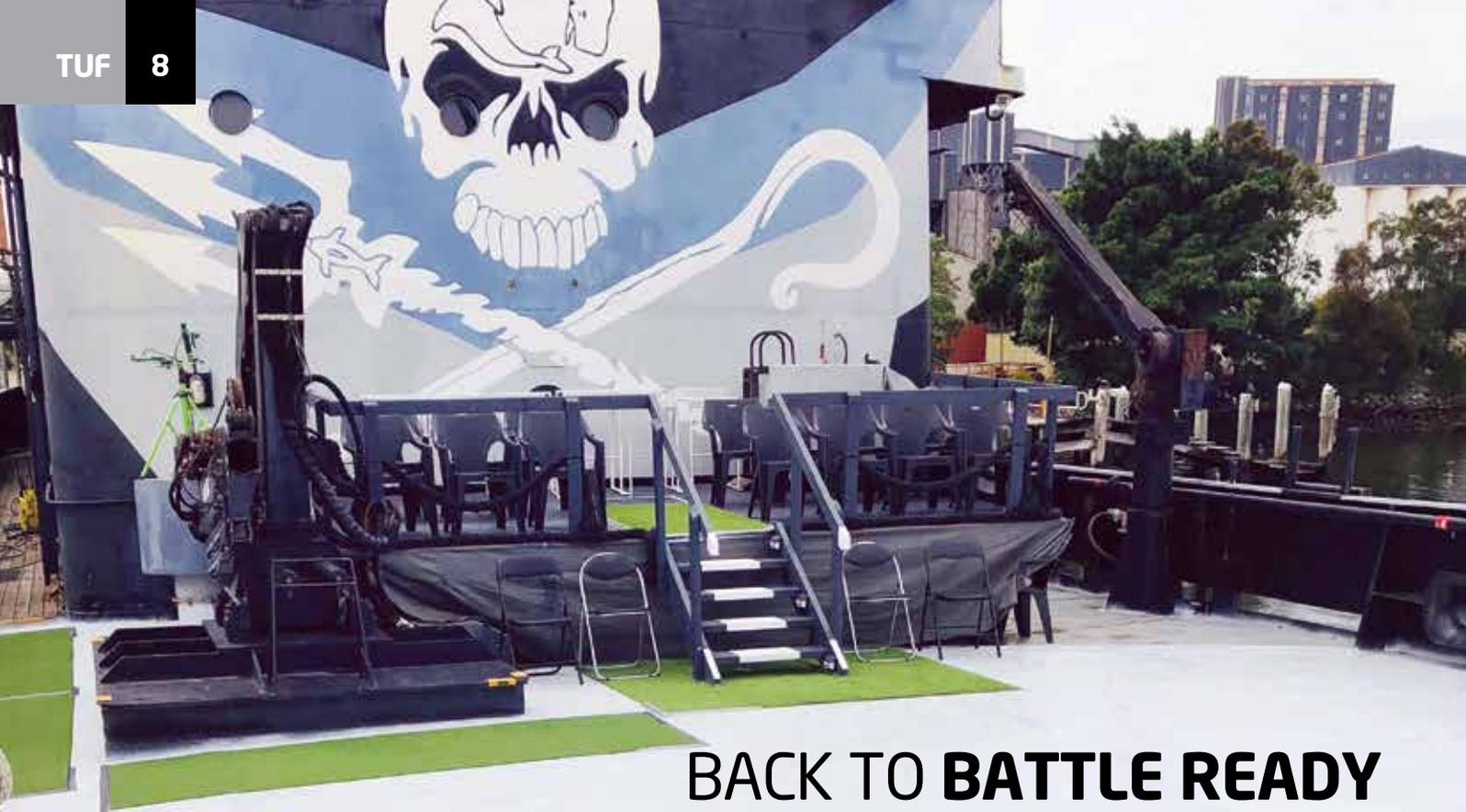


SPIES HECKER



CROMAX

View these videos through the QR codes.



BACK TO BATTLE READY

The MV Steve Irwin was the flagship of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and patrolled the oceans of the world, campaigning and taking action against whaling and illegal fishing activities. Following years of proactively protecting our environment and wildlife, including colliding with other ships, on retirement the ship was in poor condition.

In 2019, following news of the ship's possible scrapping, the ship was saved by Kerrie Goodall, founder of the Ship4Good Philanthropic Organisation, following a successful "Save the Steve" campaign. The ship is now undergoing urgent restoration.

"The Steve was in poor shape and one of the first issues to address was her paint. We needed to stop further corrosion," MV Steve Irwin custodian and U-POL Account Manager, Kerrie Goodall said.

Firstly, the ship was readied for an onboard exhibition where part of the deck was used as a "projection screen". The team undertaking the 100 square metres of work were after a tough textured coating that would not fade or peel, would be anti-slip and long lasting. The same coating was also applied to the helicopter deck.

Kerrie and the team chose to use U-POL's Raptor Industrial coating system as it is very tough, has great corrosion protection and is easy to use.

"Raptor is a 2K polyurethane coating that is thick, textured, and tough - ideal for The Steve," Kerrie said.

Raptor has outstanding corrosion, UV stability, chemical and physical abuse resistant properties. It is perfect for harsh marine environments. Kerrie's aim was also to preserve the distinctive colour scheme so tintable Raptor was also chosen.

While the Raptor cures to a tough texture, to provide added safety Kerrie chose to add Raptor traction, a compatible additive that is part of the same system. It is an abrasive grit-like powder that can be mixed-in when preparing the coating.

"It was a big job painting The Steve, but so satisfying painting over those Covid social distancing circles you can see in blue on the deck. I am very happy with the results."

This historical ship is destined to become a permanent exhibition on the Brisbane River, where it can be admired and enjoyed by generations.

Paint System: U-POL Raptor



BEFORE REPAINTING OF DECK



AFTER REPAINTING OF DECK



COACH'S CORNER WITH ROBIN TAYLOR

WHICH SHOPS ARE MOST PROFITABLE?

One of the questions I often get asked is "Which shops are most profitable?" (along with "What's the optimal size for a shop?"). In many cases a bigger shop doesn't always equate to a more profitable shop. There are three key components that need to be considered:

- **Systems and processes in place**
- **Shop culture, and**
- **Who's "Driving the Bus?"**

SYSTEMS AND PROCESSES

All the good shops that I have visited have effective systems and processes throughout the **whole** of the business. The emphasis is on the **whole** of the business. Too often I see body shop owners or managers focus on the systems and processes on the production floor. They have done an excellent job of implementing Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to ensure consistent, reliable and repeatable repair results. But when you start to look at the administration processes, you often see enormous variation and inconsistency in the implementation of "standard" processes. Many administration processes are designed around the need to check and double check the quality of the data being provided, as good data allows for good business decisions. Focus on ensuring great systems are in place so that you have the controls to monitor your performance.

CULTURE

How would you describe the culture of your shop? How does it feel when working in the business? Is the owner/manager constantly running around having to push people to make sure they are doing their job correctly? Is the shop chaotic? Is the team focused on delivering the best repair for the customer?

In an ideal repair facility, staff are focused on the customer and delivering a quality job in a timely manner. There is teamwork and a drive to fix issues, rather than trying to find somebody to blame.

DRIVING THE BUS

At best, body shops will only achieve 75-85% of their potential if there is no owner/manager or equivalent "driving the bus".

The better shops, depending on their size, succeed because they have a number of people out there driving the processes on a daily basis, with the owner/manager supporting them. Finding and developing the right team to run the shop is the most critical role of the owner.

An owner/manager should be there driving the bus, but not doing it all themselves. Shops that don't have other people taking responsibility means that the owner becomes the bottleneck of the process.



OPTIMAL SIZE

So, this brings us to the question on optimal shop size! Most people can run a shop repairing 20-30 cars per week with minimal systems and processes, where everything can be done in your head. As the number of cars increases you cannot remember everything about the jobs. Once you get over 60 cars a week, you will require skilled people with great systems and processes to run the shop effectively.

When it comes to the right size, it's unique to each business. There is a balance between the turnover required and the overheads incurred to achieve maximum profit. Quality work and good practices coupled with great culture and strong leadership actually keeps costs down and leads to better profitability. It is less about how big your shop is, and more about how well it is run!

If you need further guidance, please get in touch with the Axalta Services team.

FABULOUS FERRARI

AWARD-WINNING RESTORATION SWEEPS THE ANNUAL FERRARI CONCORSO D'ELEGANZA GALA

In 2018, Glenn Caetano, dedicated and passionate about car restoration, opened the doors to Caetano Bodyworks in Mortdale NSW where he specialises in classic cars.

"I started in smash work, where I worked for 13 years, but I was always drawn to the older classic cars, and I knew that's the way I wanted to go," explained Glenn.

Following the purchase of the business premises in 2016, and completing extensive work to turn the building into a panel shop, Glenn and the team hit the ground running in 2018, undertaking mainly restoration and customer works on older vehicles.

One of these jobs was a 355 Ferrari, which recently won the 2022 Perpetual Trophy for Best Restoration at the annual Ferrari Concorso d'Eleganza Gala. This was the first time the award had been issued since 2016, making this win even more notable.

"This project was for an existing customer - we'd completed a few jobs for him previously. The car was in good condition, but he wanted to take it to the next level," Glenn said.

The restoration was a huge undertaking for the team.

The car was stripped to bare metal and placed on a rotisserie to complete all the bodywork, including sandblasting, applying deoxidine and epoxy, filler work and preparing for painting.

The Ferrari was then painted using Cromax Centari in Rosso Corsa, followed by CC6400 clear coat.

In addition to the paint and panel work, Glenn and his team also completed the mechanical work, suspension and sourced all the newly required parts.

"That was challenging as everything had to be sourced from Italy," Glenn explained. "Given this, it was amazing we finished this job in just 13 months."

As well as luxury cars, the Caetano Bodyworks team are also restoring several American muscle cars, including a 1969 Camaro, a 1967 Chevrolet Camaro, and a number of Mazdas and Commodores.

This small but dedicated team work on as many as six cars at a time, and careful planning ensures there is no downtime and the team remain efficient in different stages of restoration.

Distributor: Wallaby Crash Supplies

Paint System: Cromax Centari



RETRO PICK-UP BEAUTY

The talented team at Caetano Bodyworks painted a retro-style restoration of a 1940s Ford pick-up truck, completed with a complicated satin sheen finish.

"The customer did a lot of the mechanical work himself. He retrofitted a new LS2 engine and added all the creature comforts, including air conditioning, air ride suspension, cruise control and power steering. They then delivered the truck to us for the body and paint work," explained Glenn.

The team dismantled the body cab and tray, sandblasted then applied Cromax epoxy. As the car was so old, it was in rough shape so the team metal repaired the body lines and gaps. The next stage was extensive block work using body filler to correct the body. After the high fill stage, the truck was ready for blocking and painting.



Above: Award winning restoration of the 355 Ferrari.



"We used Standex waterborne using our personal mix of satin clear. We use a 75/25 mix to give a little bit of sheen. The customer had a distinct vision for the car - a classic retro look. So we painted the truck a creamy off-white that complemented the brown accents in the interior."

Given the complexity of the paintwork, it was all hands on deck, including support from the Axalta team.



"For a full satin car the preparation is quite extensive, and Jason from Axalta came and lent his expertise. A satin finish can't be buffed, so whatever comes off the gun needs to be perfect."

It took 12 months to finish the body and paintwork and the customer was very happy with the result, coming in to help the team to fit it all together as part of the final fit-up.



WHEN AUTOMOTIVE PAINT BECOMES *Art*

From repairers of trucks, trailers, heavy machinery and cars, to auto electrical and tyre services, to advanced custom trim and automotive parts, family-owned business Habib Bros. Truck and Car Smash Repairs based in Austral NSW, has been instrumental in the production of an art installation at the new Sydney Modern Project (based within the Art Gallery of NSW). It's hard to believe that these two worlds could collide, but they have - and it's a stunning work of art!

Habib Bros. were commissioned by Event Engineering to work on the latest art installation by prominent, award-winning New Zealand artist, Michael Parekōwhai. Known for his progressive art, large-scale sculptures and the use of automotive paints in his work, this latest commission - 'Te Ao Hau' which means 'the world that breathes' - is based on the humble 1950s state house of the kind built in New Zealand's first Labour government after the Great Depression. The model house, which is positioned on a 6.3m long base, is made up of predominantly ready-made MDF panels that were profiled to resemble weatherboard panels and roof tiles.

It also contains parts made from various other materials including acrylic stairs, aluminium floors, fibre glass interior and steel, and features a chandelier inside!

"This has to have been one of the biggest projects we've worked on in our 47 years, where every resource available to us was used in terms of manpower and all hands on deck, to get this installation over the line," explained Wayne Hughes, Production Manager at Habib Bros.

"Comprising over 400 parts, we had the challenging task of colour matching against the swatches provided, working closely with the Axalta Colour Team, to ensure the colours of the model house were as close a match as possible."

The project took just under 12 months from start to finish. Having used 13 colours and two special effects colours, painting wasn't without its challenges, as this entailed months of testing and ensuring that the correct paints and primers were utilised for the material substrates.

COMPETING FOR A SPOT AT THE NATIONALS

The countdown is on to the WorldSkills Nationals to be held in Melbourne in August. As a Gold category sponsor, we are excited to be involved!

In late November 2022, we hosted the final regional competition group, where six apprentices from regional and metro NSW gathered to represent MTA NSW. They each put their skills to the test over a full day at our Sydney training centre, following WorldSkills competition requirements of producing a two-tone panel with design and decals along with a colour match. Competitors had an enjoyable day despite the stress of competing, while judges and staff had a hard job marking!

The Gold Medal was won by Kynan Bonanno of Ultimate Vehicle Refinishers (Sydney), the Silver Medal went to Braeden Lemke of Phillip Hunter Smash Repairs (Lismore), with the Bronze medal being awarded to Bryceson Gordon of Sampson's Car Repairs (Tamworth). The three winners also walked away with brand new Sagola spray guns as prizes.

Congratulations again to all the competitors that participated in the WorldSkills regional events. We look forward to supporting all of those that proceed to the finals in Melbourne!



worldskills
Australia

Pictured below: Axalta hosting the MTA NSW competition.



'Te Ao Hau'

"We had to test all materials for months leading up to completion, which included lengthy painting and drying times, and had to work carefully when it came to the modified MDF panels," said Wayne Hughes. "The challenge here is that MDF swells when it gets wet, so we needed the best mineral based primer for the job, to avoid this happening and ensure that the windows and doors fit once painted."

Michael Parekōwhai's 'Te Ao Hau' installation was first exhibited at the new Sydney Modern Project which opened in December 2022, and will remain there until mid-2023, before it moves to New Zealand.

Distributor: McGrath Parts & Paint

Paint System: Imron Fleet Line, Nason Industrial and Spies Hecker

Top Left: Display at the Sydney Modern Project.

Above Top: Te Ao Hau art in progress.

Above Bottom: Another angle of the completed art display.

KEEPING NSW MOVING

Bus manufacturer and repairer Volgren relocates its NSW workshop

Almost all buses used in Australia are placed under punishing schedules on busy roads in unforgiving climates that result in wear-and-tear, accidents and other problems. So for the team at Volgren, Australia's largest bus manufacturer and repairer, when a bus is taken off the road the focus turns to getting it back into action as soon as possible.

Prompted by repair commitment to its clients, Volgren recently moved its NSW after-sales and repairs workshop to a new location in Ingleburn, South-West Sydney.

"At the Ingleburn site, we carry out all pre-delivery work on new buses built in Volgren's manufacturing plant, in addition to warranty work and minor and major smash repairs on bus and coaches of all brands," explained John Steele, Manager - After Sales NSW. "The new location allows us to better service our customers."

Their new workshop is very impressive. It's modern and very clean with freshly painted floors, new work bays, and boasts an installation of the latest 22-metre fully heated spray booth. The workshop layout has optimised workflow through streamlining processes and generally realising efficiencies.

With approximately 300-400 buses being processed through the facility each year, efficient processes are vital. After completing an initial quote on-site, the vehicles are repaired to their original condition and painted using Imron Fleetline. The turnaround timeframes are as fast as overnight to three months, depending on the work required to achieve a high-quality outcome.



22m fully heated spray booth.



John and his team.

"The partnership with Axalta has been vital to meeting our high standards for repairs and paint finishes," said John. "We get great support from Axalta's Steven Viney. He comes around any time we have issues and they are quickly resolved. The paint quality and the support is second-to-none and allows us to complete repairs better than any of our competitors."

**Distributor: McGrath Parts & Paint
Paint System: Imron Fleet Line
Axalta Technical Rep: Steven Viney**



Facility at Ingleburn.

AXALTA 2023 COLOUR OF THE YEAR

Techno Blue

BOLD. ELECTIFYING. VIBRANT.

Introducing Techno Blue - a pulsating colour that is right on beat with the rhythm of today's lively energy. This modern, whimsical shade also embodies the transition from the real to virtual world.

We mark our ninth edition of the exclusive Global Automotive Colour of the Year with Techno Blue, an ultramodern blue with hue-shifting effects. It's designed with colour movement to generate excitement on all vehicle types around the globe.

"This year's colour is vibrant and radiates positivity," said Hadi Awada, Senior Vice President, Global Mobility at Axalta. "Techno Blue is a bold contrast to the luxurious Royal Magenta, Axalta's 2022 Colour of the Year, shifting people's mindsets towards futuristic thinking."

If you are interested in Techno Blue, see paint codes below:

Standox:	1433103
Cromax:	1034431
Spies Hecker Permacron:	1034431
Spies Hecker Permahyd Hi-TEC:	4041133

As a leading colour expert in paint and coatings, Axalta also publishes an annual colour popularity report. The 70th edition of this report, released at the beginning of the year, highlights that today's vehicles are more vibrant than ever. And although whites, blacks, greys and silvers still make up 82% of the cars on the road today, they are more radiant and sparkly than ever before.

Want to find out more? Scan the QR code to read the full 2022 Global Automotive Colour Popularity Report.



INNOVATIVE MOBILE TINT ROOM

The talented team at Smits Group, the importer for Spies Hecker in New Zealand, have launched their second mobile tint room, which provides their technical representatives the opportunity to showcase the Spies Hecker 480 Permahyd Hi-TEC system, including primers and clear coats to customers across New Zealand.

The first mobile tint room was launched in 2017 at their Invercargill branch and has proved to be a highly successful tool, to showcasing live the benefits of the waterborne basecoat system to panel and paint customers in the South Island.



Inside the fully stocked mobile tint room.

With the addition of the second mobile tint room, the Smits Group team can now provide live demonstrations to customers in the North Island. More customers can experience the quality of the system and understand how switching to the Spies Hecker waterborne system can support long-term high quality outcomes for their businesses.



Mobile tint room ready to go.

TECH TIPS SPECTRO MAINTENANCE

A happy spectrophotometer is a fully working spectrophotometer! In order to maximise the life and accuracy of your spectro, here are some handy tips:

- Keep your spectro clean and treat it with care! Sensors should be protected when not in use and avoid working in dusty areas to protect the device.
- Calibrate your spectro for best results - when temperature/humidity range changes during the day.
- For reliable results, keep panel temperature between 15-30°C and measure in controlled climate conditions.
- Charge the battery fully, not just so you have enough to do a job.
- Clear the readings every 15 days or 250 entries, whichever comes first.





Your Passion.
Our Coatings.

BUILDING AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE CAPABILITY

In December 2021, Hanwha Defense Australia signed contracts for the Land 8116 Phase 1 project, as to deliver 30 Huntsman self-propelled howitzers (SPH) artillery systems and 15 armoured ammunition resupply systems to the Australian Army at a cost of around AUD \$0.9 to \$1.3 billion.

Axalta has been selected as the paint partner to work with Hanwha on this project, which will see manufacturing and painting of the AS9 Huntsman commence during 2024 in a purpose built 32,000 square metre factory known as the Hanwha Armoured Vehicle Centre of Excellence (H-ACE) in the Greater Geelong area of Victoria.

The AS9 Huntsman is a variant of the K9, and will feature a proven 52-caliber 155mm gun system that is in-service with nine nations around the world with Australia, Poland and Egypt all ordering in the past 12 months. Currently, the K9 family is in service with seven nations: Korea, Estonia, Finland, Norway, Poland, India and Turkey.

The AS10 (based on the K10) is a highly protected and manoeuvrable armoured ammunition resupply vehicle (AARV) with a unique loading system that reduces risk to soldiers from enemy fire.

Axalta's specialist military team have worked closely with Hanwha in both Australia and Korea, demonstrating our range of military coatings, specialist application training, and ongoing technical support to meet the highest standard required by the military.

The vehicles will be required to operate in demanding environments for decades to come, so our paint products must stand up to these challenging exposure demands, with maintenance requirements kept to a minimum.

"The signing of this contract with Hanwha Defense Australia provides further confirmation that we understand the quality requirements, challenges and inherent risk to manufacturers supplying the defence industry" said Michael Busch, Axalta's Military Program Manager.

"We are extremely proud of our new partnership with Hanwha Defense Australia, and look forward to supporting them when local production commences in Geelong at the H-ACE in 2024."





INTRODUCING AXALTA ACADEMY!

Look out for our NEW state-of-the-art training platform – Axalta Academy – designed to help take YOUR bodyshop to the next level with the best learning resource offer in the refinish market.

Due for launch in the coming weeks, Axalta Academy unites the physical and digital worlds to give increased accessibility to highly flexible training options: from face-to-face classes, to on-demand e-learning and up-to-the-minute digital knowledge resources.

Our eagerly awaited e-learning tool allows students to access a range of modules that cover safety in the workplace, surface preparation, and refinish repair processes. All aspects of training in these modules are based on the latest Axalta waterborne technologies – Standoblue, PermaHyd Hi-TEC and Cromax Pro.

“Our new e-learning courses provide the flexibility that customers are looking for and are accessible from a PC, laptop, tablet or phone.” says Paul Polverino, Axalta’s National Training Manager. “Students can also earn I-Car points after the successful completion of all modules, which is a great incentive to jump online!”

Axalta Academy offers training that fits the way you work! For more information visit axalta.au/academy

30 YEARS LE MANS CARBAY

FAMILY BUSINESS HAS BEEN USING CROMAX FOR OVER 30 YEARS.

Le Mans Carbay was established in 1989 by Rocky Ianni and his brother Carlo. Originally located in a small service station with just two bays, the brothers outgrew the space and five years later they moved to a larger shop just down the road in Petersham NSW.

“Six years ago my brother Carlo retired, and now I run the shop on my own,” Rocky explained.

Le Mans Carbay has been using Cromax since the business was first established.

“Carlo knew Jim from Wallaby Crash Supplies from his previous work, and we’ve been with Wallaby and Axalta ever since,” Rocky said.

“We’re loyal to Wallaby and although we have paint companies coming in all the time, we are happy with what we have. The quality and support that we get is great and if I run into any issues, Wallaby always come out and help us.”

The five-strong team at Le Mans use the Cromax paint system to complete private and insurance smash work.

“Many of my staff have been with me for a long time – over 15 years.”

This family business is going strongly into the future, with Rocky’s son Vincent also working in the business.

“My son Vincent is a spray painter, and my wife Jenny runs the office. Give it until I’m about 59, then it’s time for me to retire and enjoy myself.”

Vincent will take up the reigns and continue his family’s legacy for decades to come.

Below: Rocky accepting recognition award from Axalta’s Paul Mizzi.



RECOGNITION AWARDS

30
YEARS

SPIES HECKER

Forsyth Crash Repairs PORT AUGUSTA SA

CROMAX

Clayton's Auto Refinishers WHYALLA SA
Le Mans Carbay Body Repairs PETERSHAM NSW

25
YEARS

SPIES HECKER

Careys Accident Repair Centre SEAFORD VIC
Carlin & Gazzard Autobody MOUNT GAMBIER SA

20
YEARS

CROMAX

Maroubra Bay Garage MAROUBRA NSW

15
YEARS

CROMAX

Bundaberg Kitchen Refinishers BUNDABERG EAST QLD
Gerrards Smash Repairs LAMBTON NSW
Performance Spray Painting & Crash Repairs
SALISBURY PLAIN SA

IMRON FLEET LINE

Varley Specialised Vehicles NARANGBA QLD

AXALTA

D&R Smash Repairs BEENLEIGH QLD

10
YEARS

SPIES HECKER

Top Gun Panel & Paint WARILLA NSW

CROMAX

Wunderlich Smash Repairs WEST RYDE NSW

IMRON FLEET LINE

Flinders Aviation REDCLIFFE QLD
Mako Marine Painting NORTH TURRAMURRA NSW

AXALTA

Coolamon Steelworks COOLAMON NSW
Langley Motor Body Repairs ST MARYS SA
Roscots Trade Mate BIBRA LAKE WA

Congratulations to Mel Swift from our Colour Services Team, who was recently announced a finalist for the Women In Collision Awards.

This is the second year in a row that Mel was recognised as a finalist for her hard work and support in providing customers with her colour expertise!

Axalta is proud to be a sponsor of the Women In Collision program, run by Paint and Panel Magazine.



GLOBAL DEFECTS SERIES: CORROSION

While today's modern vehicles have much better protection, poor maintenance and environmental conditions can lead to corrosion (commonly known as rust).

Learn more about corrosion and how to prevent it from our local Training Manager, Paul Polverino in our latest video.

This is just one of many videos in our Global Defects series that can be found on our YouTube channel. To view, simply scan the QR code or search AxaltaANZ in YouTube.





o Stone Grey Matt

MATT FINISHING NOW WITH ADDED INSPIRATION

© 2023 Axalta Coating Systems. All rights reserved.

MATCH VIRTUALLY ANY MATT COLOUR WITH STANDOCRYL 2K SYSTEM CLEAR SUPER MATT K9150 & STANDOCRYL 2K SYSTEM CLEAR SATIN GLOSS K9140

Colours and effects found on modern cars are often inspired by nature. And matching them, especially on ultra-low gloss levels takes the true skill of a refinisher. It also requires best-in-class products – like our inspirational new matt clear system based on the latest innovative Axalta technology. Featuring the widest range of gloss levels in the industry, it enables you to achieve very good reproducibility and right-first-time results. Together with faster drying times, high quality repairs of matt vehicles is now easier to achieve from start to finish. Feeling inspired?

Find out more at standox.au/mattclear



STANDOX

The Art of Refinishing.

