

NEW Products Update

The advent of high power UV-emitting LEDs and a new smart material – photochromic pigment – has enabled TEP to extend its range of products into areas that we only dreamed about a couple of years ago. For the first time, schools now have access to a more or less instant bonding technique previously available at a prohibitive cost and to a material transforming product design.

UV Adhesive system

UV hardening adhesives are commonplace in manufacturing, but hardly used elsewhere except in dentistry (where the cost are still very high). TEP has obtained the first ultra-low cost system for hardening UV adhesive and is now able to supply a comprehensive starter pack (including PSU) for less than the quoted cost of a small quantity of the adhesive itself. The adhesive – which bonds to most materials including glass – is applied to the work and then cured by exposure to UV light from the energiser pen. It can fully cure within 10 seconds. Light penetrates into the material about 3mm and so it is ideal for ‘spot welding’ - impossible by any other means at this speed.



NEW

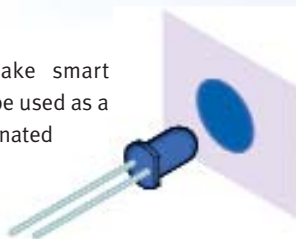
Apart from its obvious uses as an alternative to superglues, the system can be used generally to demonstrate an important ‘smart’ adhesive bonding technique.

Photochromic Pigment

TEP has already introduced schools to important smart materials through the Smart Colours range of pigments. The illusive one was a material that changed colour according to light levels. This has now been located and formulated so that it too can be mixed with acrylic media to create paint. Examples of applications include the design of UV warning badges (a small graphics product), toys and games, smart jewellery etc.



Apart from enabling pupils to make smart products, the pigment can, of course, be used as a demonstration in its own right. Illuminated by a UV LED, it changes colour with photographic effect.



UV LEDs



UV LEDs, although still relatively expensive, are now affordable for wide-ranging project work in schools. Obvious examples of product design include UV security detectors (standard security pen ink glows under exposure) and glow-in-the-dark products such as menu boards (using the phosphorescent pigment). The LED revolution is clearly just beginning!



Catalogue Update

The TEP and Teaching Resources catalogue update is enclosed with this issue of News and Views. It contains many other new products and details of new (lower) price breaks that we have achieved as a result of magnificent support from schools. Many of the new products have been suggested by teachers such as the cheap watches for packaging exercises. These come complete with a battery and can also be used for fund raising at special school events.



① If you have not yet received a catalogue or for further details of other products please contact:

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