

Handy applicator

Tests made by the Technical Service Department at Evode Limited, Staffs, UK, have shown that satisfactory application of *Evo-Stick Safe 80*, a non-flammable emulsion-based contact adhesive which will provide a bond strength comparable with a solvent-based contact adhesive (without the associated fire or inhalation hazards) can be achieved by using a paint pad (as supplied for applying emulsion paint and shown in Fig. 1). By using this method, an even film of adhesive which will allow the adhesive to dry as quickly as a solvent-based one, can be applied. An area of 1 m² could be covered in 20 s, achieving recommended coverage and minimum thickness requirements. A film so applied will dry in 15-20 min comparing favourably with the 40 min needed for a sprayed-on or brushed-on film.

Evode technicians are therefore continuing to test the suitability of paint pads as applicators for other coating products.

Further details from: *Evode Limited, Common Road, Stafford, ST16 3EH, England.*

Silver flakes amongst the resin

Electrically conductive adhesives have been specially formulated by Johnson Matthey Chemicals Limited for bonding microelectronic components. The range comprises five adhesives, *CB 001-CB 005*, all of which have been designed to be safe and simple to use in the production techniques employed in the microelectronics and optoelectronics industries. Based on new solvent-free resin formulations, the adhesives contain between 63% and 75% silver in the form of flakes which are chemically inert in the resin. *CB 001-003* are single component adhesives suitable for application by syringe, screen printing and transfer machine: *CB 001* is a general purpose material; *CB 002* is a rapid curing version (10 min at 150°C) designed for continuous production techniques; and *CB 003* has improved adhesive strength. *CB 004* and *CB 005* are both two component adhesives: *CB 004*, a 1:1 by weight

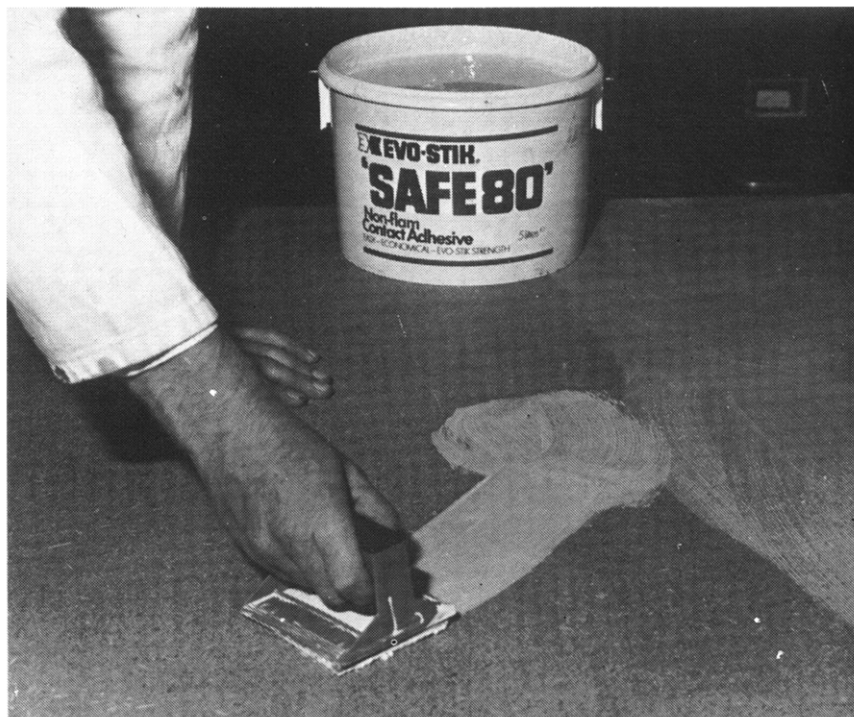


Fig. 1 The paint pad applicator method

mixture, has higher conductivity than the comparable *CB 001*, when cured at the same temperature, and can be applied by the same means; *CB 005*, a 65:35 mix by weight, will cure at low temperatures, making it suitable for use with temperature-sensitive components (it can also be cured more rapidly at 150°C) and can be applied by syringe or transfer machine. For ease of application, the single-component adhesives are available in 1, 2, and 5 cm³ nylon syringes; for larger applications they are supplied, as also are *CB 004* and *005* in 25 g or 50 g pots.

Johnson Matthey Chemicals Limited, Orchard Road, Royston, Herts, SG8 5HE, England.

Amalgamation

A merger of three companies, all concerned with the manufacture or application of protective coatings, into a single group, *Ensecote (Holdings) Limited*, will afford customers with an improved advisory service, the companies claim.

Ensecote Ltd, Ensecote Lithgow Ltd (formerly James Lithgow (UK) Ltd), and Corrosion Advisory and Inspection Services Ltd are the companies concerned; the two former will continue to maintain separate sales and on-site functions but customers should benefit from the combined resources and technical expertise. The group will supply both heat-cured and cold-cured surface coatings under the trade names of 'Ensecote', 'Calvinac', and 'Sakaphen'. The group service will include grit-blasting, metal-spraying, stress-relieving, technical consultation, specification and advisory service, and both the destructive and non-destructive laboratory testing of coatings.

Further information can be obtained from: *Ensecote Ltd, Thorncliffe, Sheffield, S30 4PY, England, or Ensecote Lithgow Ltd, Buckley, Clwyd, CH7 3PQ, Wales.*

Surface service

Pyrene Chemical Services Limited, Iver, UK, is offering what is believed to be a unique service for a UK manu-