



jowat's pearls of

Patented pearl-shaped PUR hotmelt granules have made life easy for Co Tops.

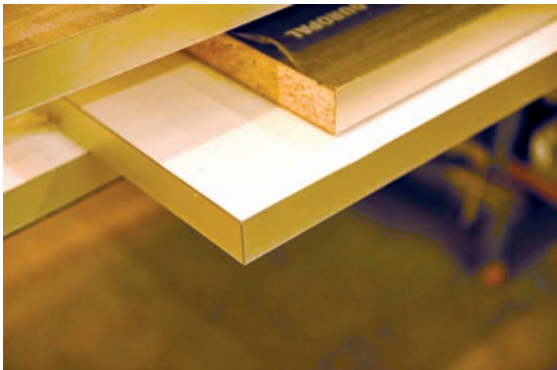
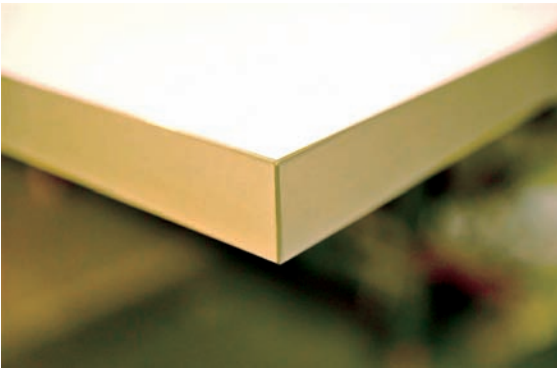
Nick Weall talks enthusiastically about his company, Dunstable-based Co Tops Ltd. It is well known for worktops, successful and very quality conscious. "We make cut to size laminated kitchen worktops in an enormous variety of bespoke sizes," he explains. "Everything we do is 4.1m long and comes in 600mm single postformed, 670mm and 900mm double postformed widths. That's the raw material. We cut worktops to customers' specified sizes and, depending on what the customer wants, sometimes that involves cutting off the postformed edge and sticking on an acrylic square edge. That might be a contrasting metallic, for example, or a matching colour. When we're working with Duropal, for example, up to 20% of our range will have a matching PP edge."

Co Tops has a Biesse Akron edgebander to apply Jowat's Jowatherm Reaktant 607.40 granulated, moisture-reactive

hotmelt. "First, when we bought the machine we were moving from hotmelt to PU and one of the problems I'd heard about with PU was that if the operator left it in the pot overnight you had a massive problem the following day. It could ruin a machine. We asked Biesse for their guidance and they confirmed the Jowat product was good. We were already using Jowat products for hand edging of acrylics so we knew the quality was good. It was about that time that Jowat came out with a new product for PU that was much more user friendly. It meant that if the operator forgot to do something the previous night it was not the end of the world. You have a day or two's grace.

"We use a nitrogen tank to keep the gluepot in over night. The nitrogen kills the oxygen and the glue doesn't solidify. It really does work, just like it says on the packet."

Jowat will supply the patented pearl-shaped granules in 770 gram tins, and for the larger user, Jowatherm 607.40 is also available in 310 cartridges 2kg, 20kg and 200kg. And, says Jowat, Jowatherm Reaktant 607.40 in granule form allows the small company to benefit from the high performance PUR adhesive whatever equipment he currently has. No additional



Above: "We cut worktops to customers' specified sizes and, depending on what the customer wants, sometimes that involves cutting off the postformed edge and sticking on an acrylic square edge." Nick Weall, MD at Dunstable-based Co Tops Ltd.

Below: Jowat's Jowatherm Reaktant 607.40 granulated, moisture-reactive hotmelt is available in various quantities from 310 ml cartridges to 200 litres, giving large or small companies the opportunity to benefit from their high performance PUR adhesive technology on whatever equipment it has currently. Co Tops has a Biesse Akron edgebander.



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investment is required, other than coating the roller basin with a non stick surface suitable for use with PUR hotmelt so there are no undesirable chemical reactions. However, the company does caution that not all EVA or APAO hotmelt adhesives are compatible with the PUR hotmelt. Processing temperatures may also need to be adapted - for Jowatherm Reaktant 607.40 Jowat say the premelter needs to be between 120 and 130°C and the roller basin needs to be between 130 and 150°C.

Jowat recommends flushing agent 930.74 is used before changing adhesives but has an experienced technical department with staff on hand to advise in the event of a query. Although Nick has never had need to call the technical department, he's delighted with the service he's had from Jowat's UK technical service manager, Stephen Parsons: "We've worked closely with Steven. He's given us all the information we could need and is always very helpful. We've never had any problems but if I want to ask a question I can always get the answer quickly. Jowat's a brilliant company to work with."

Contact Jowat on 01785 716565 or visit www.jowat.de