

Designing and manufacturing unassailable 'fit and forget' moulded harness systems for hostile environments



VARRANT



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HIGHLIGHTS

Plast=th

WARRANT

- More than 10,000 installations zero leaks
- 30 years as critical defence sector supplier
- 27 years continuous MOD Capability Approval
- 25 years Export Defence





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OFFICES











1992-2022

FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN HOSTILE ENVIRONMENTS

- Reliability driven, 'fit and forget'
- Delivering Value for Money from lowest through-life cost
- Precise, bespoke, designed for purpose
- Respected Brands







- THE CHALLENGE
- Cable systems not a commodity
- Combat, sonar or propulsion system only as good as the connecting infrastructure
- Cable architecture is the *Central Nervous System* of a platform Critical for performance, reliability is essential.





USA







- Over dependency on Design Life
 - What does Design Life actually mean?
 - 2020 Legal Precedent provides insight into this



THE RISK

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unassailable 'fit & forget' pressure moulded harness systems for hostile environments



DESIGN LIFE

Blackpool BC v VolkerFitzpatrick 2020

2011 New Tram Depot Completed with 50 Year contractual Design Life





2015 Blackpool BC discovered that parts of the structure had corroded and claimed that Volkerfitpatrick had failed to meet the contractual design life

2020 High Court ruled Design Life of 20-25 years applied

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Both parties claim to have "won" this case

DESIGN LIFE

'Design life' was not defined in the contract in *Blackpool*.

The types of maintenance that fall into 'anticipated' maintenance and the parts of the structure covered by the design life obligation hinge on the terms of the contract.

Risk lies with parties, and their insurers, to thoroughly craft and understanding the contract terms before agreeing to them.

If Design Life is unreliable why not transfer the risk to supply chain and demand long term warranties



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"When specifying or selecting a jacket material foresight should be given to the termination procedure... the bonding procedure should be established." A G Berian 2001

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Black Magic or Complex Chemistry?

BONDING TECHNOLOGY

Moulding technology - Successfully produced in UK for 30 years

PE expertise lost from the industry

Many manufacturers consider it too difficult

Bonding rather than adhesion

Chemical bonding requires high temperature & high pressure

Electron transfer (metal/plastic) or sharing (plastic/plastic)

Chemical bond is stronger than the weaker of the two materials and orders of magnitude greater than any mechanical joint.





"Cable seal failure after a design has been adequately tested and proven can be traced invariably to poor bonding." R F Haworth 1973

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PLASTETHURM Dual Jacket Sealing (PE + TPPU)

- best combined hostile environment protection
- robust to meet unspecified construction conditions
- two independently moulded and sealed jackets
- water blocked, non cross-hosing
- cathodic protection can be integrated





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ACHIEVING WARRANTY

Pedigree – 30 years of thermoplastic moulding bonding technology

Accreditation – 27 years Continuous Capability Approval

Testing – Qualification In –Process Accelerated Life Testing

Inspection – Radiography

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High temperature and high pressure process introduced sufficient energy to set up chemical reaction.

Thermoplastic moulding - complete amalgamation of the injected material with the material of the cable sheath -more difficult with Polyethylene

Bonding of the injected material with the metal substance (or technical polymer) of the gland/connector body

USA

CANADA

Plast-th

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ACCREDITATION

...the **ONLY** company worldwide to hold 27 years continuous MoD capability approval ...

...to reduce the dangers to personnel and damage to equipment all Polyethylene Moulded Cable Glands and Products must be manufactured by a company holding a current Capability Letter for the Authority.

FRANCE

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UK

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Dear Mr Wells,		
CAPABILITY APPROVAL FOR THE MA	NUFACTURE OF PRESSURE HULL GLANDS	
Following the successful construction and Scientific Management International (1 of with the requirements of Defence Standar am very pleased to issue this letter, follow	I testing of the Pressure Hull Glands carried out by 19 way STP and 1 off 50 Ohm Coax), in accordance d 08-171 Issue 2, which I witnessed in January 2021, I ing a successful and enjoyable visit.	
Please accept this letter as my confirmati Management International for the manufa note that:	on that Capability Approval is hereby granted to Scientific cture of Pressure Hull Glands from 21 February 2021. I	c
1. The PHGs tested are the two	most commonly supplied to the MOD.	
 That Capability Approval exclu these are only required for ne 	udes Test 20 - Fire and Test 21 - Underwater Shock as w designs, and;	
 The above Capability Approva this date re-qualification must 	al is valid for three years until 20th February 2024, after have been completed.	
I look forward to continuing to develop ou Submarine Enterprise.	r new and growing partnership in support of the	
MILVINS		
M G Ivins		
Project Chief Engineer for Submarine Pla	tform Equipment	
	UFFICIAL	

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Tests have been designed to show a high level of integrity for safety and reliability

TESTING

- Chemical, mechanical materials testing
- Ultrasonic, dye penetrant testing
- Insulation resistance @1000 VDC
- Circuit resistance
- Ionisation at 2000 VDC
- FO insertion loss measurement
- Thermal cycling
- Pneumatic pressure test
- Hydrostatic pressure testing including cycling
- Open ended destructive pressure test
- Fire tests simulating surface and submerged
- Underwater explosive shock tests
- Radiography
- Additional tests are added to cover application specific requirements i.e. attenuation, characteristic impedance, return loss, load current

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Routine radiographic inspection of mouldings is industry best practice

3 plane non-destructive inspection shots with 60° rotation of each moulding

Radiographic contrast shows defects or cracks from the surrounding metal or polymer background area, voids or bond failures as shadow

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YEAR WARRANTY

& FORG

1992-202

YEARS APABILIT

PPROVAL

& FORGE

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