



DRIVE Marine Services

USING PEELPLY

The use of peel ply in the fibre glassing process is extremely important. The closely woven nylon cloth which is specially treated acts as a release fabric, to which epoxy will not adhere. It is applied as the last layer of the sheathing process. When applied the Peel Ply fabric should soak up the excess resin and be in full contact with the underlying laminate. This is achieved by using a Fibreglass Roller to push the Peelply evenly onto the resin and expel all air. Using a stippling action with a brush works well on small areas.



Figure 1 – Prototype Canoe with Peelply applied

Why use peel ply?

The following are the major advantages of using Peelply.

- (i) The epoxy/glass sheathing is evenly consolidated as more pressure can be applied without disturbing the fabric.
- (ii) Excess epoxy is brought to the surface and is removed from the laminate minimising weight and maximising strength.
- (iii) The fibreglass is pressed down onto the substrate, thereby preventing the fabric from floating.
- (iv) When the Peel Ply is removed the textured surface will need minimal to no sanding, thus allowing further layers of glass/epoxy, fairing compounds or coatings to be applied. (remove peel ply just before the application of subsequent coating).
- (v) Overlap joints, and stitching on multi-axial fabric, are feathered out by using peel ply.
- (vi) Significant saving in consumables & time sanding before the next step.

The additional cost of using peel ply is far outweighed by the reduced labour involved in sanding a cured epoxy coated surface. The peel ply can remain on the surface for a long period of time as it will still be easily removed, thus protecting the epoxy / fibreglass sheathing.



Figure 2 – Stitch N Glue joints with Peelply applied

Peel ply is applied as the last layer in the sheathing process, or the last layer applied in a single day. Layout the Peelply on the epoxy/glass surface, then use a Fibreglass Roller and/or squeegee to push the Peelply evenly onto the wet out fibreglass and expel all air. Using a stippling action with a brush works well on small areas. There will probably be enough excess epoxy in the laminate to thoroughly wet-out the Peelply, if not is probably because the resin has started to gel. If this happens leave the dry areas. Overlap the peel ply where necessary.

Important:

Ensure there is an un-wetted edge of peel ply. When cured this dry edge will ensure the peel ply is more easily removed.



Figure 3 – Peelply applied to Cosy Aircraft components

Tips:

1. Compound shapes such as canoe/Kayak Hulls; - for the final coat of Epoxy – wet out approx. one (1) metre at a time. Tear the Peelply into strips approx. 300mm wide and overlap as per Figure 1. This eliminates creasing & epoxy gelling before the Peelply is wetted out.
2. Do not use too much epoxy resin as it is wasted & can cause the Peelply to bury itself at the joints.

For further information or product assistance we look forward to you contacting us.

Everything needed to build, Repair or Restore your boat using the safest methods

Bote Cote 2:1 Epoxy Resin, Fillers, Pour-on-Gloss Decoupage Coating, COP-R-BOTE Epoxy Antifouling, AQUACOTE Polyurethane Coatings, PURBOND Waterproof Single Pack Glue, TREDGRIP Rubberised non-slip Paint, Fibreglass & Carbon Reinforcing Fabrics, FERONITE Rust converter and Primer, Marine, Proof & Aircraft Plywoods, NIDAPLAST Composites, Silicon Bronze Fasteners
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