UV adhesive provides virtually invisible bond for prestigious bespoke clock

World renowned clocks have been made in Derby since the mid-1700's, when clockmaker John Whithurst entertained his friends Benjamin Franklin and Erasmus Darwin (grandfather of Charles Darwin) at his house in Queen Street. So, when the Finesse Collection of hotels were planning the reception area of their new boutique hotel in the town it was natural that they seek out the present day flag carriers of the Whithurst brand. Smith of Derby worked closely with James Blick, the Hotelier, to derive a contemporary design in keeping with the modern refurbishment of their traditional building.

The spectacular design by Kevin Litchfield did, however, call for some very specialist work. Explains Kevin,

“We needed to fit a glass map of the world into a fine stainless steel frame. The two-part adhesive we were using gave us problems, so we called the team at INTERTRONICS to discuss a UV cure alternative. Paul Whitehead arrived two hours later and basically did the job there and then.”

Our solution was to use DYMAX 429 UV curing adhesive, which allowed plenty of time to accurately position the one-off and highly expensive components before rapid curing initiated with an IUV 250 UV flood lamp.

Paul described the situation:

“They were having problems getting the joint bubble free using a two-part epoxy - whereas the DYMAX 429 completely eliminated this problem and gave a virtually invisible bond in a matter of minutes.”

(continued on next page)
Reaction to the finished clock has been extremely positive, with its unusual two-part electromechanical construction showing local time in one quadrant and global time in the other. The two elements are actually two separate clocks. One shows local time, indicative to the quarter of an hour. From 12am to 12pm (and vice versa) the hand travels through the quadrant; there are hour and quarter hour markings. As an example, if it is 11:59, the hand would be positioned at the bottom of the quadrant pointing downwards. At 12:00 the hand would travel back through the quadrant.

The second clock depicts world times through 24 zones – or the 24 countries mentioned on the clock itself. The reference point for the clock is the UK, and then countries were selected that were an hour apart from the previous one. When looking at the clock, the world map travels around and the time can be taken from the dial that surrounds the globe.

This was clearly a unique, one-off situation with very expensive components where no mistake could be allowed for, but it was also a valuable learning experience. We understand that Smith of Derby already have another commission with similar requirements and already know the solution: DYMAX 429 UV curing glass adhesive.

---

Dymax 429 glass bonding adhesive

- Resists yellowing
- Resists vibration and thermal shock
- Optically clear
- General purpose bonding
- Potting and sealing
- For large area bonding

Applications include: Glass, plastic and metal bonding; glass laminating; bulletproof glass bonding; glass trophy assembly

---

IUV 250 UV flood lamp

- High performance 250 watt hand-held UV lamp with separate power supply unit
- Aluminium UV lamp unit is compact, lightweight and extremely durable
- Illumination area is typically 130mm x 75mm
- Fan cooled for low UV lamp housing temperatures
- Glass filter assembly is fitted to a hinged front door, enabling easy access for UV bulb and glass filter replacement and cleaning
- Elapsed hour counter for UV bulb change scheduling
- Auto reset thermal safety cut out
- Wire mesh over filter glass for protection

Applications include: Curing of UV adhesives for glass, plastic & metals, curing of UV potting on electrical & electronic components, production and repair of 3D models from stereolithography (UV hardening polyester resins)