ADHESIVES, TAPES, SEALANTS & GUNS

MORE ADVANCED PRODUCTS DEMAND MORE ADVANCED DELIVERY

Current generation adhesives and sealants are light years more versatile than their predecessors’ chemistries, applications and operating temperature ranges. Ultra-high-performance products can overwhelm older dispensing tools, so manufacturers must design more advanced dispensing tools as well. These seven companies are leading the way in both fields.

SHURTAPe TECHNOLOGIES, LLC

There’s a constant effort in many industries to get a job completed as quickly as possible, while still maintaining the quality required. In the restoration, renovation, abatement and remodeling industries, for example, on-time job completion is critical. Proper preparation of the job site is among the first steps.

Tapes, particularly painter’s tapes and duct tapes, are often used to build containment systems and critical barriers when preparing the site, especially for tasks involving cleaning, sanding, mold remediation, asbestos or lead removal and more. For jobs that will not be followed by demolition, time and costs also depend upon the original structure remaining intact.

When hanging poly-sheeting to build containment systems and critical barriers, many contractors use a two-tape, two-step method of applying painter’s tape to protect the surface, then hanging the poly-sheeting with duct tape (and sometimes spray adhesive if necessary). It’s a tried-and-true method; however, the approach can become costly in terms of labor and material costs.

“Shurtape now offers DS 154 double-sided containment tape—a solution that helps contractors cut steps, not corners, when creating high-performance containment systems and critical barriers,” says Glenn Walter, product marketing manager, building and construction tapes. “DS 154 is constructed with a Differential adhesive system to deliver a two-tapes-in-one solution: the surface side features a premium grade painter’s tape adhesive that allows for 21-day clean removal without damage or residue; the linerside is designed with a specially formulated, aggressive adhesive that securely holds poly-sheeting, tapes and other protective coverings in both wet and dry environments.”

For ease of use, the tape and poly-sheeting remove cleanly and easily—in one step—once the job is done.

DRIPELESS INC.

“It seems as if the chemists have been busy in the labs coming up with adhesives to glue just about everything together,” observes Tom Allen, director. “Even the Boeing jets we fly on are adhered, not riveted. The new adhesives come in all sorts of viscosities and two-part formulations, so there is growing need in the industry for new dispensing tools to gun these products efficiently and accurately.”

To address one need, this year Dripless, Inc. has introduced ETS9000, an advanced design 10-ounce adhesive dispenser that handles ultra-thick-viscosity products and cold-weather applications where the product is almost solid when gunned.

“Dispensers on the market that handle these situations are high ratio—usually 26:1—and steel,” Allen explains. “They all have the same weaknesses: they weigh a ton, are welded, stamped and riveted (which adds cost and weak points) and are heavy on the pocketbook.”

The Dripless ETS9000 composite adhesive dispenser for ultra-thick-viscosity products is half the weight, has no welds or rivets and is around two-thirds of the price of traditional steel high-ratio guns.

“Dripless thinks that the future of sticking two things together is in adhesive technology, but the best glues just sit in the tube until dispensed,” he adds. “The dispensing tools of choice will be the ones that help the user control the adhesive, make it easy to use all day while combining durability and affordability. This describes the ETS9000.”

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Industry Update

by Tom Hammel

Mule-Hide

Beloit, Wisconsin-based Mule-Hide Products has been a leading provider of high-performance roofing products and systems for commercial, industrial and institutional applications since 1985, offering EPDM, TPO, PVC, modified bitumen, coating and vegetative systems. Two recent products, JTS 1 joint and termination sealant and EPDM x-23 low-VOC bonding adhesive, showcase Mule-Hide’s expertise.

“New JTS 1 joint and termination sealant allows contractors to quickly and easily seal large joints and roof termination bars — including those submerged under water — with no sagging or shrinking and minimal odor,” begins product manager Kimberly Pollard. “JTS 1 has a tack-free time of just 30 minutes — significantly shorter than other joint and termination sealants — further enhancing crew efficiency.”

This 100-percent solids moisture-cure urethane sealant delivers excellent adhesion to EPDM and PVC membranes, concrete, masonry, wood, vinyl and other common building materials. The solids content eliminates shrinking and sagging, which means that JTS 1 can be used to provide watertight closure of joints up to 2 inches wide and 1 inch deep, a significant advantage over many other joint and termination sealants — further enhancing crew efficiency.

Blue Monster

Contractors appreciate the sealing qualities of Blue Monster industrial-grade thread sealing compounds, now available in a complete range of sizes, including 2-ounce squeeze tubes ideal for any tool box or storage bin. Blue Monster is offered exclusively by the Clean-Fit Products division of The MH-Rose Company, one of the world’s leading suppliers of PTFE (polytetrafluoroethylene) thread sealants and the largest manufacturer of twisted-in-wire brushes in the USA.

Blue Monster industrial grade thread sealants are offered in two formulas (with and without PTFE) to seal threads on all metals, PVC, CPVC, ABS and nylon pipe systems.

“Blue Monster thread sealants feature a high bulk density with more solids in their formulation,” says Greg Miller, general manager of Clean-Fit Products. “This allows you to work the product into the valley of the threads, giving you greater sealing capabilities to fill any voids that occur under different pipe and fitting tolerances.”

Both formulas feature a slow drying, soft-setting and non-hardening compound designed to improve sealing of threaded pipe systems, especially when poor-quality threads are an issue. These heavy-duty sealants are lead-free, non-toxic, will not harden or separate in the tube, and adhere to oily threads.

Blue Monster industrial grade thread sealant (without PTFE) is specially formulated with superb “sticking” characteristics. Blue Monster with PTFE is specially formulated for extra lubrication on pipe threads. Both formulas apply evenly and quickly to threads, work well on-site or on assembly line work and allow reduced potential for blistering. EPDM x-23 provides excellent shear performance, ensuring strong adhesion of membranes to parapets for tight, waterproof installations.

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systems to be pressurized immediately after assembly.

“Blue Monster heavy-duty thread sealants form a better seal for leak-proof connections,” Miller adds. “In addition to the convenient 2-ounce tubes, Blue Monster sealants are available in 1/4-, 1/2- and 1-pint cans with an applicator designed into the container’s lid.”

NEWBORN BROTHERS

Newborn has been providing quality sealant and adhesive dispensers and accessories since 1974, when the company started with two models of caulking guns. Since then, Newborn has designed and manufactured over 95 different models and obtained numerous patents by continuously listening to its customers’ needs.

“One of the growing trends that Newborn has discovered in the caulking gun world is the growing use of sausage guns,” says Tyler Hippen, sales and marketing coordinator for Newborn Brothers. “More users are converting from material packaged in traditional plastic cartridges over to sausage packs due to the various benefits.”

Sausage packs, typically 20 ounces, offer less waste and generally lower prices. As the material in a sausage pack is being extruded, the foil pack is condensed, which leaves a compressed, lightweight piece of foil that is only a fraction of the size and weight of a 10-ounce tube of caulk. This saves users time, money and space while also providing an environmental advantage.

Newborn Brothers’ model 620-AL comes with a special cup engineered to extrude sausage packs. The 620-AL also includes attachments that allow the user to convert it to a bulk or cartridge gun in seconds.

“The 620-AL is also available in a variety of colors and designs,” Hippen adds. “These unique colors/designs enable users to easily separate materials, divide teams, help prevent theft on the job site, represent their local sports team and more.”

DEWALT

DEWALT’s new 20V MAX* adhesive guns, models DCE560, DCE570 and DCE580, are designed to handle a wide variety of sealing and gluing applications in the automotive and construction industries. The 20V MAX* adhesive guns can be used with various adhesives including latex, silicone, polyurethane, flexible epoxy and more.

“We spent a significant amount of time working directly with end-users and researching their applications to develop our 20V MAX* system,” says Josh Tarini, DEWALT product manager for caulk guns. “Manual dispensers can be hard to control and fatiguing to users who are dispensing a large amount of adhesive. Our 20V MAX* tools help in both of these areas.”

The 20V MAX* adhesive gun is available in three canister sizes; 10-ounce/300ml (DCE560), 29-ounce (DCE570), or 300-600ml sausage tube (DCE580), so professionals can choose the format that suits their typical use best. One key feature is Anti-Drip, which briefly auto-retracts the plunging rod when the trigger is released.

“During our research, we were reminded of just how important it is to users to have precise control over material flow rate, so we’ve added a variable speed trigger in addition to the variable speed dial to help users make adjustments on the fly,” Tarini explains. “The trigger can also be locked at a specific setting during use. Each 20V MAX* adhesive gun also has a rubber over-mold grip, tool-free change canister, hang hook and a bright LED work light.”

LEARN MORE

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“These products were developed in response to customers’ requests, mainly those in the stair manufacturing and installation industry,” says Scott Long, CEO. “Although it serves a small niche market, this epoxy will perform as intended, you will find a team that stands behind their products.”

PC SuperEpoxy is a non-drip translucent epoxy that is now available in black and packaged in 50ml injector cartridges for use with 50ml dispensing guns. This epoxy is a non-drip translucent paste epoxy with unlimited uses in bonding, sealing and as a filler for most materials.

Unlike conventional liquid epoxies, PC SuperEpoxy is resilient, non-conductive and demonstrates excellent resistance to most chemicals, saltwater, gasoline and fuel oil. And to go with this epoxy is a newly designed premium grade dispensing gun ergonomically designed for increased leverage with less hand fatigue. It is also easier to clean.

PREMIER BUILDING SOLUTIONS

Premier Building Solutions is one of the fastest growing adhesive and sealant companies in North America, offering a wide range of adhesive technologies as well as custom packaging capabilities. The next generation sealant technology in its new GenX product line offers maximum durability for use in many interior or exterior conditions.

“The new GenX product line was created to be the solution to every problem. Our research and development department addressed every challenge a contractor might face when engineering these products,” says Derek Miller, President of Premier Building Solutions.

The GenX product line addresses contractor sealant needs with aggressive adhesion to the most common construction substrates, while ensuring complete compatibility — even with rubberized asphalt, flashing and other building materials. These unique features reflect extensive research and development efforts to engineer the ultimate high-performance sealant technology.

GenX is designed for interior/exterior use for sealing around windows, doors and siding. It bonds to a variety of materials, including fiber cement, cedar, brick, stone, coated aluminum, steel, fiberglass, vinyl, PVC, stucco, EIFS, wood, glass, concrete, masonry, flashing tapes and Kynar coatings. It resists mildew, can be used vertically or horizontally, bonds to wet surfaces, is paintable in two hours and is available in hundreds of colors.

Historically, contractors have looked to technical service professionals to help them make the right choice for their applications. However, Premier Building Solutions is redefining customer service by offering an Integral Technical Support (ITS) department, which addresses every challenge a contractor might face when engineering these products.

The ITS department addressed every challenge a contractor might face when engineering these products. By backing up its new GenX line with a strong technical support department, Premier Building Solutions is positioning itself as a trusted partner in the construction industry.

The ITS department delivers technical expertise and support to contractors, allowing them to use GenX sealant technology in their projects with confidence.

The ITS department provides answers to questions about the application, performance, and compatibility of GenX sealant technology. Contractors can rely on the ITS department for guidance and assistance in selecting the right products for their specific needs.

Premier Building Solutions’ new GenX line of interior/exterior door, window and siding sealants bond to virtually any material, can be applied to wet surfaces and are paintable in two hours.