



Using SAF30 SA for FRP Marine Applications

CASE STUDY



APPLICATION OVERVIEW

FRP (fiber-reinforced polymer) is a popular composite choice for marine applications. Offering design variability, FRP also provides a lightweight, durable option for fast assembly. Ideal for liners, gunwale boards and deck to hulls especially, adhesives are used to bond FRP together.

CUSTOMER PROBLEM

A large boat manufacturer was having trouble with its adhesive when bonding FRP for its liner, gunwale board and deck to hull applications. In particular, the chosen adhesive was not always curing properly and sagged during the assembly process. Trying to fix the issue, the manufacturer applied two lines of adhesive, one on top of the other, to reach the required thickness. However, the product's thixotropy, or body, was inadequate and unable to hold the needed bead shape to obtain an optimal bond. This meant increased labor and material costs, which was not a viable long-term solution. Additionally, the manufacturer noticed that the adhesive would boil and smoke when applied in large quantities, due to its high exotherm, which caused significant worker safety concerns.

BOSTIK SOLUTION

When a well-known distributor learned of this issue, Bostik's SAF30 SA was recommended to replace the current adhesive. Designed with patented methacrylate technology, this solution provided the ideal balance of flexibility and durability. Fast setting and non-sagging, SAF30 SA required minimal surface preparation and offered excellent environmental resistance. With a wide service temperature range, it also streamlined operational efficiencies, offering the same high performance levels at varying climate conditions.



VALUE TO THE CUSTOMER

By switching to Bostik's SAF30 SA, the manufacturer obtained a consistent curing product and the correct thixotropy needed for its applications. As a non-sagging product, SAF30 SA lowered adhesive consumption by at least 15% and reduced labor by 20% per application. With lower exotherm, SAF30 SA also improved worker safety and streamlined processes at the plant, making it a smarter option overall.

KEY BENEFITS

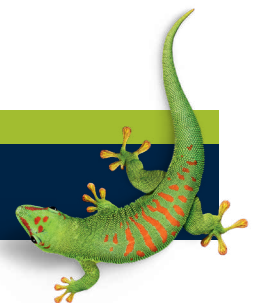
Features	Benefits
Excellent environmental resistance	Able to withstand harsh conditions
Top-tier elongation	High flexibility, increased durability
High thixotropy	Non-sagging on vertical surfaces, decreased adhesive use

BOSTIK HOTLINE

Smart help
1-800-726-7845

Bostik, Inc.
11320 W Watertown Plank Road
Wauwatosa, WI 53226
www.bostik.com/us

©2018 Bostik, Inc. All rights reserved.



01.29.18