Cigarette Returns to Racing with Interplastic CoREZYN® Brand Vinyl Ester and Captures World Championship

For those who want to enjoy high performance pleasure boating, take “Poker Runs,” and race competitively all with the same boat, Cigarette Racing Team’s new F-2 Series race boat is the answer. This 38-foot Top Gun model is based on the most popular high performance boat ever made but it is lighter and incorporates a stronger hull design, achieved through new technology and Interplastic’s CoREZYN VE8121 vinyl ester resin. It’s wickedly fast and with the skilled hand of Craig Barrie at the throttles, it captured the 1998 F-2 World Championship.

The American Power Boat Association (APBA) sets the requirements for weight, length and power. F-2’s must be monohulls powered by twin 500 horsepower Mercury F-2 Series motors. “That evens the playing field,” adds Barrie, president, Cigarette Racing Team.

“This form of competition determines which company makes the best boat and which drivers and throttlemen are the best racers. Cigarette Racing Team went from zero to World Champion in less than five hours with this boat design.”

Jack Molleur, of Molleur Design & Consulting was brought in specifically for this design project. “Cigarette is known for having one of the lowest warranty rates in the industry. They haven’t had a hull failure in many, many years,” says Molleur. “The new F-2 boat had to equal that warranty performance plus weigh less than 10,000 pounds.”

It also meant that weight reduction and improved speed would have to come from careful materials selection. “This new boat required the use of more exotic materials to achieve our
objectives. The deck is all carbon fiber and the hull structure used tri-axial and bi-axial fabrics for added strength and durability. Molleur also used the Baltek® Super Lite System which features a high-density end-grain balsa core in the bottom, sides and deck and a composite formed stringer system. Molleur selected Interplastic’s CoREZYN VE8121 vinyl ester resin, in conjunction with the Baltek system. “I believe it is one of the best formulations in the industry and I recommend it to all my clients,” he said. The combination of materials proved to be very favorable as the boat weighed in at only 7,775 pounds. This dramatic weight reduction directly and positively affects the speed of the boat.

CoREZYN vinyl esters are known for their strength and durability in marine applications and are used on all Cigarette production boats. Resistance to water permeation and abrasion, combined with light weight and outstanding fatigue resistance, make all CoREZYN vinyl esters outstanding choices for applications such as marine composite hulls and decks.

Interplastic is also proud to offer the industry’s first tough, low VOC, modified vinyl ester resin (MVR). The CoREZYN VEX201-307 resin is designed for marine, tooling and general composite applications. It features excellent physical characteristics, surface quality and blister resistance. It delivers the toughness and strength of traditional vinyl esters plus compliance with current EPA regulations.

For nearly 40 years, Interplastic Corporation has been a partner to the composite materials and cast polymer industries. Over the years, our investments have reinforced our commitment to formulate and distribute the finest resins and gel coats our customers can buy. Our technical staff and laboratories are available to our customers to help develop new formulas, meet application challenges and troubleshoot manufacturing issues. We welcome an opportunity to sit down with you to discuss your resin and gel coat needs. Interplastic Corporation is ISO 9002-registered.