

Your new boat with a MAXGUARD premium marine gel coat finish will look good for years to come. The unique coating that makes up your boat's beautiful exterior is the result of many years of gel coat research, testing and development.

Gel coats have been used for years to make the colored surfaces of fiberglass boats, including hulls and decks as well as other exterior and interior parts. The gel coat is actually a thin surface coat of a specially pigmented polyester resin used in hand lay-up and spray-up fabrication to provide an attractive and weather-resistant surface to finished parts.

Ashland Composite Polymers knows gel coats. In fact, we are the composite industry leader and have set the standard in high performance gel coats. MAXGUARD, Ashland's premium family of gel coats, is designed with performance and beauty in mind. You can rest assured that your boat is protected with the industry's top-performing gel coat – providing state-of-the-art protection against ultraviolet radiation and salt water while ensuring the flexibility and toughness required for the demands of boating.



DISCLAIMER

**Notice:** Your boat incorporates Ashland Inc.'s MAXGUARD premium gel coats, the best in gel coat technology. Proper cleansing and waxing, as outlined in this brochure, is necessary to prolong the beauty of the boat's finish. Repairs to the surface that are beyond routine maintenance should be made only by experienced professionals.

**ASHLAND**

**MAXGUARD**<sup>®</sup>  
PREMIUM GEL COATS



Responsible Care™

Ashland is committed to the continuous evolution of technology and service solutions that promote health, safety and environmental protection around the world.

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**ASHLAND**

Quality Through and Through



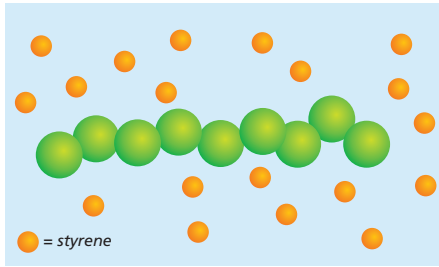
**MAXGUARD**<sup>®</sup>  
PREMIUM GEL COATS

Coatings for Maximum Life  
With Patented (LE) Low Emission Technology

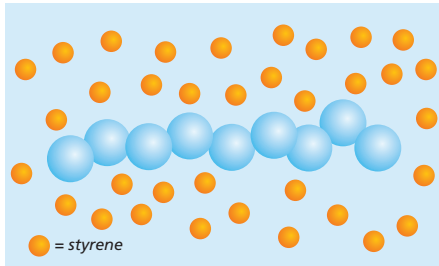
Gel coats are only as good as the base resin. Ashland produces its gel coat from a proprietary set of base resins. Only Ashland MAXGUARD® gel coats have the benefit of LE technology that allows our gel coats to stand up to harsh duty, and reduces the presence of styrene – a prime culprit in yellowing and shrinkage.



Gel Coat with LE Technology



Standard Gel Coat

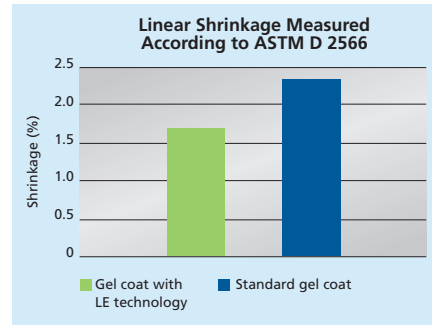


The LE technology allows formulation of gel coats with minimal total monomer content, which significantly improves the UV performance of final products. In accelerated weathering tests, where QUV equipment simulates sunlight's ultraviolet radiation, LE technology gel coats show superior yellowing resistance and gloss retention when compared to other high-performance gel coats.

BUILT TO LAST.

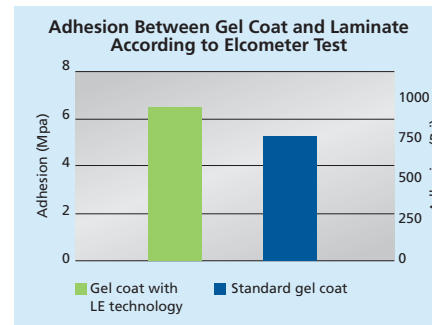
BETTER COSMETICS.

Additionally, LE technology greatly reduces shrinkage and produces a better surface than standard gel coats. Measurements and tests show 20-30% less shrinkage.



The LE technology does not influence final mechanical properties. Gel coats can be designed for optimal balance between flexural and tensile strength, elongation and heat distortion temperature. Gel coats with LE technology have been formulated to meet the toughest requirements set by classification societies, like Lloyd's Register of Shipping, Det Norske Veritas, ANSI, etc.

While a gel coat must provide an attractive finish and protect the underlying laminate, it also must adhere to the laminate surface. The adhesion between the laminate and a gel coat with LE technology is comparable or better than standard gel coats. This is verified in the Elcometer test where gel coats cure for three days before over lamination.



GEL COAT CARE AND MAINTENANCE TIPS

Congratulations on the purchase of your new boat with a new Ashland MAXGUARD gel coat finish! We hope that you follow these tips on gel coat care and maintenance, which will help to preserve the beautiful appearance of your boat.

- Keep your boat cleaned and waxed.
- Wash your boat with only mild, non-abrasive detergents.
- Wax the exterior of your boat at least twice a year.
- Clean and wax your boat prior to placing it in storage.
- Use only a high-quality automotive wax in accordance with application instructions provided by the manufacturer.
- Remove any small scratches or scuffs using a fine rubbing compound. For any major repairs, consult your authorized dealer.
- Cover if possible to keep your boat looking its best. Store in a dry, covered area.
- Never use any abrasive cleaners or brushes on your boat's exterior surfaces.
- Remove any unintentional fuel or oil spills from the gel-coated surfaces as quickly as possible.
- Give your boat a fresh water wash after saltwater use.
- Never place a non-breathable cover on a boat that is still wet.