

THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Back in Black

Welcome to the **2023/2024 edition of the Flints Reference Catalogue** containing thousands of products, gigabytes of useful information and a handful of good jokes. Whatever your field, I hope you find inspiration within its' pages.

The search for new and interesting products to bring you has always been Flints' core mission, but for this edition, inspired by the ABTT's Theatre Green Book and by many of you, we have been putting environmental concerns down stage centre of this process. For example our new range of Spirit Renaissance Eco Paint Brushes [page 72] have handles made of recycled plastic and bamboo waste, our new Flints BioBeads [page 101] are a biodegradable alternative to polystyrene beads [we are still working on sheets - watch this space]. Our Product Manager, Jack, is especially proud of his Cork Granules [page 48] idea to replace foam crumbs or rubber chips. We now list Dekozell [page 44], made from 100% cellulose fibres, a renewable resource, which is great as a texture coating and is recommended by Emma Troubridge of the Royal Opera House amongst many others. Our Earthborne Wall Glaze [page 55] is an entirely plastic-free alternative to traditional emulsion glazes. Or how about Treefix ties [page 208] to replace plastic cable ties or PVC tape? The list goes on, and so do our efforts - read more about this on page 2. Away from our "greener" products there is the Viking Arm [page 307 & 360] which we think has a myriad of uses on a stage and then there is our ever-expanding range of Rader Busch castors [from page 241], designed specifically with the theatre and film industries in mind. Nothing is greener than using quality products that can be re-used again and again. Finally, there is the blackest paint we have ever sold: Flints Very Black paint [page 7].

Stepping back, it has been wonderful to see the theatre sector recovering from the Covid pandemic even if it is clear that there is some way to go. Cuts in spending on the Arts, especially outside London, are having a direct effect on production budgets. In London reduced visitor numbers and the Government's levelling up agenda is adding pressure onto both the commercial West End and national companies. While our business in theatres is still in a recovery phase, our work with customers in the Film and TV sector continues to grow, and we are very grateful for it. Our van has become a well-recognised feature on studios around London serving customers working in Art Departments and now increasingly Gaffers and Camera Operators too. You are all very welcome. Do let us know if you feel that we are missing anything from our range - we really do want to be the one stop shop that delivers to your door!

My thanks go to those involved in producing this catalogue. Our Customer Services team, headed by Talia, have been reporting product ideas from customers. Please do keep those ideas rolling in. Our Purchasing team: John, Yvie, Emily and Cat have been sourcing (and often re-sourcing) products for inclusion, negotiating with our suppliers to ensure that our customers benefit from the best possible prices. Collating all the information and organising it into a concise, authoritative and above all readable reference catalogue falls to our Marketing Manager Hannah who has been ably assisted by Jack. Each edition brings her new challenges: new and updated products, discontinued lines, regulatory changes, crazy ideas from the Managing Director, an ever increasing awareness of environmental issues, the technical aspects of turning a database of thousands of products into a paper catalogue. Hannah does this all with unflinching good humour and everyone at Flints is grateful to her, but especially me.

I have a picture of Angus Young of AC/DC throwing around a can of good old Bolloms paint as part of the promotion of the Highway to Hell album which I would love to have used to illustrate this letter. If that famous blue and white striped can was good enough for the greatest rock and roll band in history, it was good enough for me, and appropriate too as Flints black is now widely seen as today's Bolloms black. Unfortunately the image is copyrighted so you will just have to Google it. And my apologies if none of this means anything to you, it must be great being young.



Ben Lyle, Managing Director

SYMBOLS & GUIDE TO CATALOGUE



This product is new to our catalogue



Marine product



We love it



Sells like hot cakes



Cheap as chips



Excellent value product



Separate brochure available



Colour swatch available



Video available



Suitable for Personal Protective Equipment



Product suitable for lifting operations



Product is CE and/or UKCA marked [used only sparingly]



Product is also available to hire



Adhesion value in approximate newtons per 10 mm



Regrettably, no longer available



This item is being sold as cheap as we dare go before Andy Repka, our Finance Director, shouts at us



This product is a Flints Own product



Flints is approved to ISO 9001: 2015



Flints is a member of the Association of British Theatre Technician Industry Supporters Group



Flints is a full member of the Lifting Equipment Engineers Association



Purchase by phone, at our shop or online.



We accept most credit cards.

