



the unseen advantage

SUMMER 2015

Friction falls to fluorination

Gas fluorination is another of the comprehensive range of services we offer our customers, enabling us to modify the surface properties of components without any effect on the core material itself.

Already used in industries such as automotive, pharmaceutical, packaging and construction, gas phase fluorination is a well-proven process that's equally effective on plastics, polymers and rubber – and can be precisely controlled to deliver consistent and repeatable improvements in a variety of specific criteria.

Greatly reduced coefficient of friction is the principle benefit of fluorination, but it can also be used to enhance adhesion and bonding, increase chemical resistance, control permeation and improve wettability.

Because the gas accesses the entirety of the surface at a molecular level, fluorination is ideally suited to small or complex components, ensuring the desired effects are maintained across all edges, angles, openings and holes.



The picture above, although not technically accurate, does show the benefit of a low coefficient of friction. The featured products are piston seals fluorinated for use in the food industry – and not toboggans.

An-udder dp seals success story on the way



Another satisfied customer! We produce the outer seal on the clear plastic chamber.

We're currently in the final phase of developing a new seal for Milkrite's Ultraclaw milking equipment. The claw is the component that sits under the cow's udder, gathering milk into a clear chamber before pumping it out of one outlet.

Although the name 'claw' may sound a little brutal to the uninitiated, it's actually been designed for ultimate cow comfort, efficiency of milk flow and maximum hygiene. We'll be featuring the full story in our next DP Update.



Welcome to the new edition of DP Update, keeping you in touch with some of the latest developments here at DP Seals.

Once again, we've enjoyed a busy and rewarding time since our last newsletter, and with the uncertainties of the General Election out of the way, we expect business to continue on the upward path we've experienced over the past year or so.

And, of course, we couldn't sign off without adding our hearty congratulations to AFC Bournemouth on their promotion to the Premier League. Let's hope they do as well in their top flight as we have in ours for nearly forty years.

Andrew Piper
Managing Director



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Setting the NOROSOK standard

With resilient performance at the heart of almost everything we do, perhaps it's no surprise that we're setting an unrivalled standard in components conforming to the rigorous NOROSOK M-710 benchmark – being one of the very few companies to insist on only using materials which meet the full requirements of just the top two grades.

Originally developed by the Norwegian petroleum industry, M-710 has now become the internationally recognised standard for non-metallic seals and bearings, offering oil and gas companies an unequivocal assurance of quality, performance and durability in components designed to operate in hostile sub-sea environments.

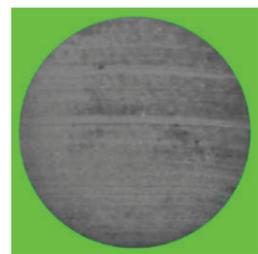
To meet M-710, materials must achieve accepted criteria for both rapid gas decompression (RGD) – also known as explosive decompression (ED) – and sour gas ageing (H2S), both of which are proven indicators of long-term performance and viable life expectancy.

We've been working to the NOROSOK standard virtually from its inception, and have developed and supplied a wide range of seals and custom-moulded components to customers in the UK, Scandinavia and further afield.

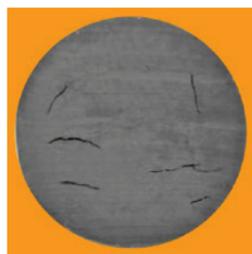


"High quality components have been the cornerstone of our success," says our MD, Andrew Piper, "and adhering to M-710 is simply one more way in which we can be sure of meeting the stringent specifications of our customers in the oil and gas industries."

A stand-alone website www.norsokready.com with full information on NOROSOK testing criteria and a list of approved materials that we use has also been launched.



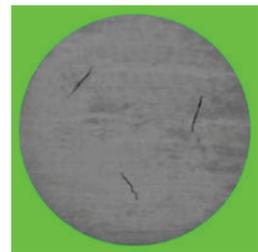
0 rating - PERFECT PASS
No internal cracks, holes or blisters of any size.



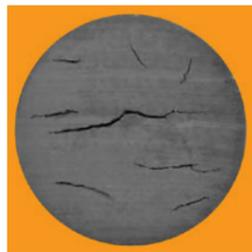
2 rating - PASS
Less than six internal cracks, each shorter than 50% of cross section, with a total crack length less than 2.5 times the cross section.



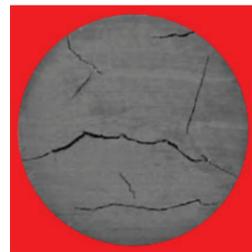
4 rating - FAIL
More than eight internal cracks, or one or more cracks longer than 80% of the cross section.



1 rating - PASS
Less than four internal cracks, each shorter than 50% of cross section, with a total crack length less than the cross section.



3 rating - PASS
Less than nine internal cracks, of which a maximum of two cracks can have a length between 50% and 80% of the cross section.



5 rating - FAIL
One or more cracks going through the cross section, or complete separation of the seal into fragments.

Cleaning up in a flash



Yet another enhancement of our facilities has been seen with the addition of a new state-of-the-art machine to undertake cryogenic cleaning and de-flashing.

Supplied and installed by AW Maschinen & Anlagen Technik GmbH, the AWS 20 effectively doubles our capability – not

only speeding up the work flow in general but also eliminating the prospect of costly downtime if one of our units should be out of action.

The AWS 20 is one of the most advanced machines of its kind, operating at temperatures down to -150°C and able to



run fully customised multiple programmes linked to our own management systems. The operator simply has to scan the docket accompanying each batch of components and the unit automatically selects the appropriate programme for the part, thereby ensuring quality control and traceability are maintained throughout the process.

"With the increases in production we've seen in the past couple of years, additional de-flashing facilities were an obvious area of investment for us," says our MD, Andrew Piper, "and the new machine ensures we can meet our customers' requirements more comprehensively and cost-effectively than ever before."

See a short video of the AWS 20 in action. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sVVONoOWybE&feature=youtu.be>

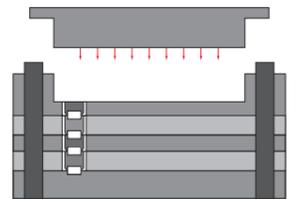
It's patently obvious

If you're looking for evidence of our originality and innovation where seals are concerned, you need look no further than the patent we've recently been granted for our unique tooling and moulding system.

It all started almost 40 years ago when our founder, David Piper, came up with a concept for a moulding tool incorporating locating plates that not only allowed free and easy movement during assembly and disassembly, but could also be locked into position to ensure the closed cavities remained closed and so drastically reduced any potential for flashing.

The combination of practicality and ingenuity immediately gave us an advantage over our competitors and enabled us to produce small, close tolerance, flashless mouldings that no-one else could match.

The basic concept has been an integral part of our production process ever since and now our ownership of the idea has been signed, sealed and delivered with the granting of UK patent GB 2513012.



Aerospace unit flying high Cue the compliments

With the aerospace industry showing excellent growth – and new models from Airbus and Boeing coming on stream – we’ve seen production continuously rise in our dedicated aerospace unit.

And with the first passenger flight of the superb Airbus 350 having just taken place after eight years of development, we’re now looking forward to supplying seals through our world-leading business partner, Eaton, for some years to come.



A busy aerospace facility requires excellent management skills and recently, we’ve been putting key staff through customised in-depth coaching to improve communications and production efficiency.

Our MD, Andrew Piper, was very impressed with the results. “This has proved to be a really worthwhile exercise and we’ll continue to invest in our staff, honing their already considerable skill sets and further improving services throughout all our industry dedicated units.”

We’d particularly like to commend Amy Harris and Shane Murphy for their enthusiasm – it’s great to see their new skills put to use so effectively, working with colleagues and customers, managing their teams and taking on increasing levels of responsibility.

We’re delighted to say that every year we receive quite a few letters, phone calls and e-mails complimenting us on what we do – and, modesty aside, it seemed high time that we put some of them into the public domain.

So now we’ve created a special section on our website where we can share these testimonials with our customers and you too can appreciate at least some of the praise and plaudits that come our way.

Naturally, if you’d like to tell the world how well we’ve satisfied your own particular requirements, we’d be more than happy to hear from you. Just e-mail us with all the details and we’ll do the rest.

Look who’s talking

With the launch of our website’s own on-line live chat function, you’ll now have the perfect place to bandy words with our seal supremoes, Dave and Giles. Any questions or queries you have, just type them in and, wherever possible, they’ll get back to you right away with their best answers, suggestions and solutions. After hours – or if they’re

otherwise engaged – you can leave a message and they’ll respond ASAP.

Now, what would you like to talk about first?



Live chat can be found on your screen bottom right



LinkedIn



Facebook



Twitter



Youtube

email us at info@dpseals.com

Of course, most importantly, we’re available face to face, so feel free to call on **01202 674 671** and we’ll be pleased to arrange a time to meet up with you to discuss requirements.



dpseals

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