

COATING WILL STICK AROUND

Faster cars and less cavities are just two benefits of this new wonder gel.

A product that protects your teeth and your car's finish? That's quite a claim. But according to the Florida dentist who developed it, Kiss-Cote polymer coating will do that and much more.

With a consistency similar to Vaseline, this super silicon can be used on almost any material to make it waterproof, dirt- and chemical-resistant. "It's an ideal coating for new equipment, protecting the paint surface from things like acid rain and insects. A plow will shed dirt easier if it's treated," says Dr. Keith Kent, the product's inventor.

It's also a good product for machinery maintenance, he says. "It seals the surface, providing protection from acids, sun and detergents. It makes it easy to clean since it puts on a nonstick finish. It will also restore the color of faded paint, and dramatically slow additional fading."

Kent says that a surface treated with his product will maintain a shine and make water bead indefinitely. "Once Kiss-Cote is on a car, it will never need to be waxed again."

From golf balls to grout

But this product's uses go far beyond cars and machinery. Originally developed in 1982 as a dental treatment to prevent plaque buildup, Kent's coating was put to the test on a fiberglass boat hull. After nine months in the water, hard-to-remove barnacles were easily wiped off, reports Kent. The new coating also greatly reduced surface drag. Cars, boats and planes go faster when treated with Kiss-Cote, he claims. "Golf balls even go farther and straighter."

The inventor says he's found a variety of uses for the gel, sometimes accidentally. Like the time his wife spilled some on a piece of cement; water still beaded on the square nearly a year later. "My wife has also discovered that it protects grout from molding or mildewing in the shower. The uses are really endless," he says.

Because the coating is nontoxic and nonreactive with its environment, Kent says it works especially well for such delicate tasks as coating the inside of artificial hearts, blood bottles and syringes to improve liquid flow, and on surgical instruments, making them easier to clean



Just one drop of Kiss-Cote will cover several square feet of surface, according to inventor Keith Kent. A thin application is best, so he recommends using a buffer to apply the gel.

and maintain.

That nonreactive property is what really makes the coating unique, Kent points out. Other materials, like Teflon, are dangerous and difficult to work with. "and to get the stuff to stick, you have to go through these very sophisticated etching and bonding processes. The big thing about what we've been able to do is to take these nonstick materials and make them stick to things without going through the fancy chemistry."

One product snag: "Once you've applied Kiss-Cote, other paints and adhesives won't stick, unless you remove the original surface," he says.

A little dab will do ya

A highly concentrated gel, the product must be applied sparingly, cautions Kent. "Eight grams of the product are enough for a first-time applicator to do one or two full-size automobiles, so realize the material spreads a long way."

The chemical nature of the substance requires a very thin application, he adds. "The thinner the material, the better it works." That's why he recommends using an orbital buffer to apply it, but a



clean cloth and lots of elbow grease will also do the job. If a buffer is used, its bonnet will initially absorb some of the gel, but if kept clean, the bonnet can be used repeatedly.

The concentrated form of the product is available in two container sizes — 8 grams sells for \$100, 50 grams for \$525. Kent admits that may seem expensive, but it figures out to be about 25¢/square foot of surface covered.

For more information contact Kiss-Cote, Inc., Dept. FIN, 12515 Sugar Pine Way, Tampa, FL 33624, 813/962-2703 or circle 216.— Peg Zenk. □