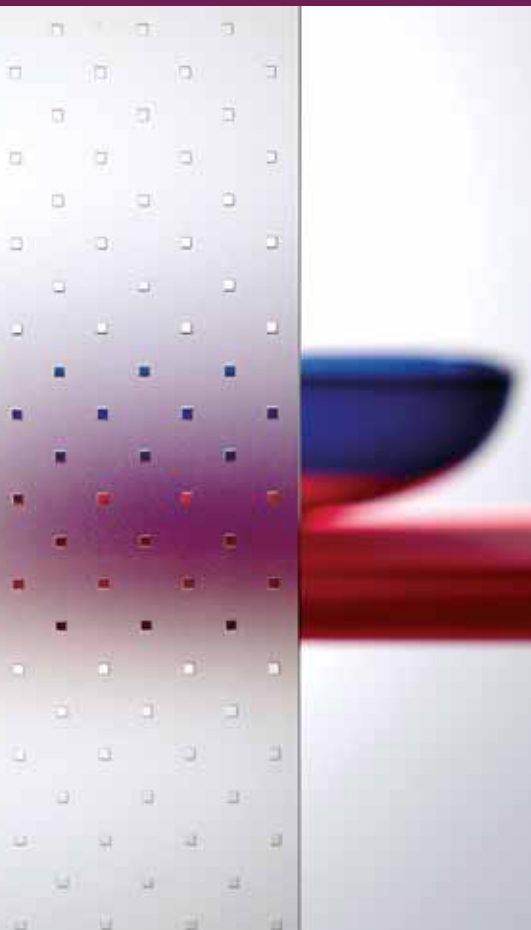


OPTICAL EFFECTS

New Colors, Finishes Expand Acrylic Options

compiled by Kristen Caldwell



CYRO INDUSTRIES



PREMIER MATERIAL CONCEPTS

For store fixtures, signs, and P-O-P displays, today's acrylic sheet products offer UV resistance, improved clarity, and ease of forming, as well as optical effects to enhance any retail environment. Here's a sampling of what's available from NASFM member companies.

ASTRO PLASTICS

Covington, Ga.

800-334-4474, 770-786-2703

www.astroplastics.com

Astro Plastics, a designer and manufacturer of custom plastic extrusions, offers ASTROglo, a technology for creating custom, colorful profiles with edges that appear to be illuminated. Ideal for signage applications, ASTROglo can be co-extruded with rigid PVC sections for complex fabrications used in mounting. The product also can be co-extruded with flexible barbs to make an easy-to-attach profile that glows, or with hinges to create a profile with flexing applications. ASTROglo is available in a variety of colors.

ATOGLAS

Philadelphia

800-523-7500, 215-419-7605

www.plexiglas.com, www.atoglas.com

Atoglas, a division of Arkema, unveiled a new addition to its line of Plexiglas EdgeFX products at GlobalShop in March. Developed by Atoglas scientists specifically for creating P-O-P displays, Plexiglas EdgeFX exhibits dramatic internal optical effects—the edges change color from separate yellow and blue layers to a cool green when viewed at different angles. This fluorescent color scheme is now being offered in addition to the existing Plexiglas EdgeFX acrylic sheet with edges that change from separate red and blue layers to a warm pink, depending on the angle of observation. Both sheet options are available in a frosted or glossy surface.

Plexiglas EdgeFX fabricates and thermoforms as easily as standard acrylic sheet; no special tools or new techniques are needed.

Atoglas offers Plexiglas EdgeFX in 51-in. by 100-in. sheets, in thicknesses of 0.236 in., 0.354 in., and 0.472 in.

Atoglas also offers the Plexiglas Perfection acrylic sheet, a lightweight product that offers a blend of clarity, protection, and break resistance for signage and display applications. A clear masking on one side and a white masking on the other side permits manufacturers to visually inspect and confirm the quality of the acrylic sheet before use. Plexiglas Perfection comes in standard and UF5 grades. The standard grade filters most of the harmful UV rays from both natural and artificial light sources, and the UF5 sheet is available for maximum (99 percent) UV filtering. Plexiglas Perfection sheets measure 48 in. by 96 in., with thicknesses available in five increments from 0.080 in. to 0.236 in.

CYRO INDUSTRIES

Rockaway, N.J.

800-631-5384, 973-442-6000

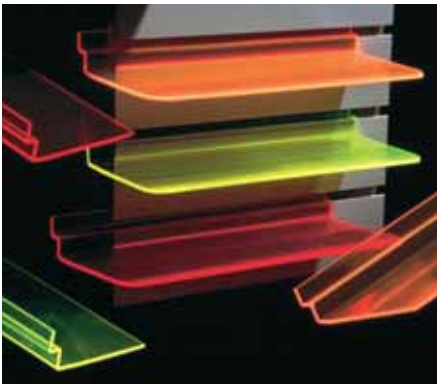
www.cyro.com

First offered at GlobalShop, CYRO Industries' new Creative Box includes more than 30 product samples from the company's portfolio of Acrylite acrylic sheet products. Each box also includes a comprehensive booklet outlining each product, along with photography of designs created with Acrylite sheet. Eligible designers and specifiers can obtain the Creative Box at www.acrylite-magic.com.

The briefcase-sized box contains an array of textured and colored sheet samples, including CYRO's new Acrylite Trend Textured acrylic sheet. Ideal for shelving, furniture components, trade-show booths, and traditional acrylic applications, the Acrylite Trend Textured acrylic sheet is available in three textures: Pluto, Swing, and Tunis. Pluto's raised squares provide a symmetric look and tactile surface, Swing offers a curvy look with slightly raised diamond shapes, and Tunis provides a sleek matte texture. All three textured sheet products come in colorless, gray, blue, red, and green. The tex-



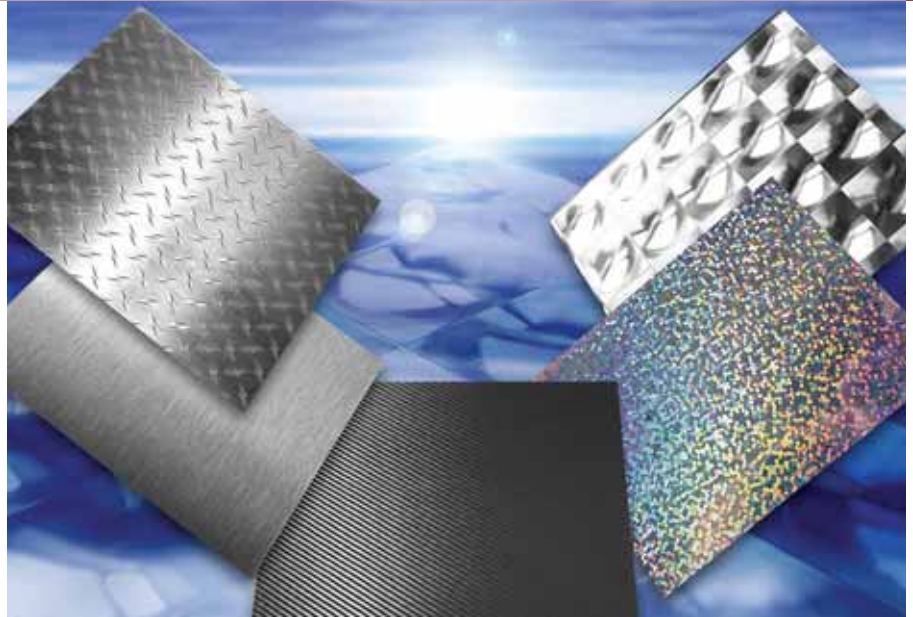
ATOGLAS



ASTRO PLASTICS

tured acrylic sheet resists fading and is easy to drill, saw, bond, and route. It can also be cold-curved or thermoformed to create shapes. The sheet is available in two thicknesses: 0.157 in. (4mm) and 0.236 in. (6mm), with a sheet size of 79.9 in. by 120 in. (2030mm by 3050mm).

Also available from CYRO is the new Acrylite SuPure acrylic polymer system, combining proprietary manufacturing technology with state-of-the-art packaging to ensure that polymers are free of foreign materials from manufacturing to the point of use in customer facilities. Parts molded from Acrylite SuPure polymer have better clarity than optical glass with greater dura-



PLASKOLITE INC.

bility and ease of manufacturing for higher throughput and lower costs. The material shows no adverse reactions to UV light. The Acrylite SuPure proprietary purification process incorporates the EverPure Packaging system, where SuPure polymer is loaded into woven polymer bulk packaging to ensure that the product remains free of contaminants during shipping. Another packaging option is PureGuard, which eliminates dust and contaminants with a heat-sealed chimney-liner system. SuPure acrylic polymers are available in a number of grades to offer high heat resistance, excellent flow properties, and high molecular weight for stiffer polymers.

PLASKOLITE INC.

Columbus, Ohio
800-848-9124, 614-294-3281
www.plaskolite.com

Plaskolite Inc., a manufacturer of continuously processed acrylic sheet, has added Fabbback Dimensions to its line of acrylic mirror sheet products. Stardust, Fresnel, Brushed Stainless, Diamond Plate, and Carbon Fiber patterns are available in 0.118-in. thickness, in a sheet size of 48 in. by 96 in. Custom thicknesses and sheet sizes are available. Fabbback Dimensions is screen-printing compatible.

PREMIER MATERIAL CONCEPTS

Findlay, Ohio
877-BUY-PMC6 (877-289-7626), 419-425-8974
www.buypmc.com

Premier Material Concepts (PMC) offers a wide array of stock decorative acrylic sheet products that can be produced to client

specifications for P-O-P displays. The acrylic sheets are available in finishes such as granite, marble, solids, woodgrains, and metallics, as well as in custom colors and patterns and in a variety of gauges, from 0.005 in. up to 0.210 in. The standard 2-ft.-wide sheet size is available in any length. Some patterns and colors are also available in 4-ft. widths.

Also available from PMC is PremierKote, a line of UV-resistant sheets and rolls for co-extruded applications. The company's PremierKote materials provide protection from UV degradation via co-extrusion over a variety of polymer sheet substrates including ABS, PC/ABS, HIPS, ASA, ASA/PC, PV, PVC, and PETG. Typical applications include decorative panels and signs. PremierKote materials can be provided in thicknesses ranging from 0.015 in. (0.4mm) to 0.200 in. (5mm) and in widths up to 72 in. (183 cm). Additionally, PMC can match capstock to any color.

The company also offers an extruded high-impact polystyrene for use in thermoforming innovative displays. ■

Kristen Caldwell is managing editor of *NASFM magazine*.

Acrylic Resources

For more information on the companies listed here, or to locate additional NASFM member companies that provide acrylic sheets and products, use NASFM's Fixture Finder search at www.nasfm.org.

