

The Canning Handbook

Decorating and Protecting Metals and Plastics

FOREWORD

For over 200 years the surface finishing industry has been engaged in a continuous process of discovery and application of techniques for cosmetically enhancing or mechanically improving the properties of metal and plastic surfaces. This process of evolution continues through the efforts of research, development and 'application know how' specialists, within the industry sector we know as surface finishing. Without the capabilities we have already mastered, little of our modern day society could function efficiently. From the now familiar printed circuit board to the complexity of the modern automobile, surface finishing provides material enhancements that increase operational life, component efficiency and cosmetic appeal of many modern products. Like many industrial processes, surface finishing is now so widespread and commonplace that we often take the benefits it delivers, for granted.

Since the first edition of the Canning Handbook in 1901, the variety of technology now employed in surface finishing has expanded considerably, providing all forms of manufacturing industry with benefits that it would be impractical to achieve with any other technology.

This edition of the Canning Handbook is therefore dedicated to all those involved in the research, development and 'application know how' areas of our industry. Without their dedication and persistence the surface finishing industry could not evolve to meet our changing technological, ecological and economic needs.