



*Frits, electrostatic powders and colouring oxides for vitreous enamelling*



# Escol - The Future

“Speed, sustainability, innovation, product quality and complete care for the environment.”

- Escol's business philosophy.

## Speed

At Escol we pride ourselves on our fast response capability. Through close working relationships with our customers we are able to react quickly to tomorrow's demands. We are able to develop a product in line with market demands.

By a focus on agreed objectives and with ongoing direct dialogue with our customers we are able to shorten time scales for roll-out of projects.

This enables us to match resources to market needs for new product, product support documentation (COSHH, Health and Safety Instructions for use), and field technical support. The production systems used at Escol are geared towards a manufacturing system with infinite flexibility.

Sales orders are thus processed quickly and efficiently and the despatch of goods meets minimum timescales.

The ongoing investment in "add in" production facilities ensures our installed capacity keeps pace with sales demand in all product areas.

## Sustainability

The Escol commitment is to maintain and continuously improve its world quality and environment standards, in line with the ISO 9001 and ISO 14001 requirements. We bring this about through our links with our customers, our staff, our local community, universities and pro-active support for the British, European and International Standards Institutes.

Thoughtful use and recycling of resources, improvements in energy efficiency, the application of "Best Available Techniques" (BAT) and the development of new methods of enamel application and fusing, all combine to make our company a "green" company.

Escol can thus meet its corporate social responsibilities and help to guarantee a sustainable future for our children's children.



## Escol – The History

Escol Products Limited, a member of the Stewart and Gray Group of Companies, was incorporated in 1954 and is now the sole manufacturer of vitreous enamel frits and electrostatic powders for steel and cast iron in the UK. The company supplies these high quality products to major manufacturers across the world.

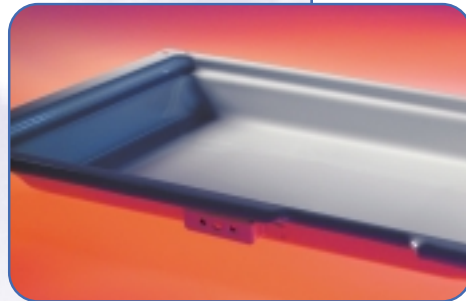
The original company JF Stewart was established in 1919 with manufacturing facilities in Stratford, London. It was founded by William Thomason, whose pioneering work in introducing leadless enamels into the ceramic industry paved the way for the production of leadless frits for vitreous enamelling.

During the early 1930's JF Stewart worked closely with J Gray and Sons, who were specialist engineers serving the enamelling industry. The name Escol was already in use at this time, subsequently becoming an internationally recognised brand name.

During the following period manufacture of Escol frits transferred locally before moving to a new purpose built factory at Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. The site has continued to expand with the addition of electrostatic powder facilities, catalytic self clean manufacture, and the investment in Ready-to-use manufacturing capability.

In recent years the diverse range has been complemented by the development and production optimising of environmentally friendly process systems. These have enabled a simplification in the processes used by our customers and a subsequent reduction in their total manufacturing costs. Included in this category are 2 coat 1 fire enamels and pickle and nickel-free enamels in white, pastel colours, and catalytic self clean finishes.

# Escol - Innovation & Environment



One coat white applied to degreased only steel



One coat catalytic self clean applied to degreased only steel



Heat energy recovery unit at the Escol factory

“Speed, sustainability, innovation, product quality and complete care for the environment.”

## Innovation

There are many ever increasing requirements for the company's diverse customer base encompassing environmental, energy saving and productivity led factors.

Significant developments include:-

- The Escol pickle-free white system now adds to the range of pickle-free groundcoats and catalytic self clean systems. To complete this route there is also a range of pastel colours available. In many cases these developments will reduce production costs.
- Wet and powder application onto oiled components is also available. This development can assist in improving the environment and reduce production costs.
- 2 coat 1 fire system, in its various forms such as powder on powder, powder on wet dried groundcoat and wet on wet are being continuously developed to satisfy customer demands for ongoing cost reductions.
- Wet disc application is available and can be advantageous when quick colour change is required and the equipment in some cases can be designed to fit into restricted areas.
- A range of metallic finishes is available. Unique colour effects can also be produced on request for design centres.
- Pickle-free catalytic and pyrolytic systems are available to meet cost saving and environmental requirements, and to simplify customers production methods.
- Ready-to-use (RTU) and ready-to-mill (RTM) options are well established in a wide range of colours and finishes.
- In accordance with our development programme we collaborate with universities.
- On-site colour matching facilities are available.

## Complete care for the Environment

Environmental concerns are at the heart of Escol's thinking, operations and business activities.

We at Escol ensure our operations go beyond compliance. Sustainable production and consumption practices are utilised ensuring waste minimisation and maximum recycling. Energy, materials, and water are used efficiently and effectively, and emissions are strictly controlled to "best practice" levels.

Work continues with suppliers and contractors to further improve our environmental performance.

In product design we seek to minimise environmental impact and cost both in our manufacture of the product and the subsequent use of the product by our customers. In this way we take full responsibility and stewardship of the environment.

# Escol - Quality

## Product Quality

At Escol, all frits and enamel powders are fully tested and approved by a team of experienced chemists for customer-specific use to rigid standards. A continuing research programme seeks to both improve and develop frits and powders to meet the demands of the industry.

As well as the manufacturing facilities, the Huntingdon site has specialist laboratories for Quality Control, Research and Development, Powder Development and Colour Matching. Special attention is paid to individual customer requirements in solving their enamelling and related problems and full technical reports on specific difficulties can be prepared and submitted. This involves such areas as cross sectional views through vitreous enamelled steel or cast iron products for microscopic evaluation. The colour matching facilities include the use of a spectrophotometer for accurate colour control.

All product packaging is clearly labelled and provides identification for record purposes, and the retracing of technical information after the consignment has been despatched. Samples of all product batches are retained for a period of six months as part of a complete technical back up service.

Escol maintains an excellent supply record in its world markets with a first class quality supplier reputation.

A high level of technical service backup is provided to ensure optimum use of the supplied products. In most cases the highly skilled team of enamel technicians have enamel end user management experience.





# Escol - Customers



## Principal Customers

### Consumer

The Company's principal consumer product customers are major manufacturers of domestic appliances, baths, sinks and hollowware.

Illustrated are a few examples which demonstrate the breadth of experience the company has acquired in this market over the years.

This ranges from the famous Aga Rayburn cookers, Stoves built-in cookers to Jotul fires.



# Escol - Customers

## Principal Customers

### Industrial

Escol are a major supplier to enamellers of architectural building panels, silos, hot water tanks to contract enamellers and specialist applicators in many different countries around the world.

Shown here are examples which demonstrate the breadth of experience the company operates across the globe - ceramic panels on the Smaralind Shopping Centre, Reykjavik, Iceland (Architect: ASK Arkitektar) and a silo by Permastore Ltd.

In recognition of its achievements in overseas markets the company has been a recipient of the Queens Award for Export.





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A member of the Stewart & Gray Group of Companies (established 1919)