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Lancaster, NY, September 26, 2005. United Silicone, an ITW Decorating Company, announces completion of a new article profiling state-of-the-art materials and processes, as well as advances in the product decorating industry. The enclosed abstract summarizes this article. Please contact United Silicone for the complete text.

United Silicone, an ITW Decorating Company, specializes in the design and production of custom hot stamp and heat transfer decorating machines. Their automation department offers complete capabilities from integrated applications to full turnkey systems.

Worldwide, United Silicone provides a complete range of Hot Stamp and Heat Transfer systems, tooling, and services for product decorating and graphics applications including equipment, tooling and supplies.

For more information, visit www.unitedsilicone.com

ABSTRACT

HOT STAMP/HEAT TRANSFER DECORATING - TOOLING COMPONENTS

This article was researched and prepared by United Silicone. It begins by defining the critical aspects of hot stamp and heat transfer decorating—temperature, pressure, and dwell—and the role played by each in successful decorating. Detailed descriptions of die materials, characteristics, and applications are provided. The advantages and benefits of various die materials receive special attention. Precision components such as jackscrews and alignment pins used for more accurate positioning of the die in relationship to the substrate are also described. Of particular interest is the coverage of state-of-the-art developments such as software packages and advances in CNC-controlled equipment that allow manufacture of accurate tool sets without actual parts on hand!

Critical features of nesting fixtures including materials, characteristics, and behavior of each are thoroughly discussed in this article. The role of mounting blocks and quick-change dies are also covered. A detailed comparison chart is included to assist product decorators in making the best choice for each decorating project. The article concludes with a troubleshooting chart to assist equipment operators in analyzing and correcting decorating defects.