

# FINISHES

By Paul Boyanowski

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Tom Schmitt and Don Srull, Editors*

The following article was extracted from a letter to Russ Sandusky by Paul. This was in response to Russ's request for info concerning the finishing of Paul's Vega which many of us have admired both on the Judges table and in the air. We quote in part from Paul's letter-

"I'll try as best I can to explain how I finished the model. The paint used was Designers Gouache by Windsor & Newton. The color in this case was Primary White. It is available in art stores in a variety of colors. It is a friendly paint without any harmful fumes. No health labeling is required on the product. The Gouache is similar to Acrylics in that it comes as a paste in a tube. However it mixes easier with water, and is easier to clean out of the airbrush. To give the Gouache some permanence after application, I spray a light coat of Krylon Clear #1301 Acrylic spray out of the can on it. For a dull finish Krylon #1311 Matte Finish works nice. On the Vega I airbrushed the paint on raw Japanese white tissue after the tissue had been applied to the model and water shrunk. Apply several very light coats of paint. If too much paint is applied water droplets will begin to appear. At this point stop painting and allow your job to dry. Painting patiently and methodically produces the best results. The actual amount of paint required to give the model some color is very little. When painting is complete apply an even coat of the Crystal Clear. It dries fast and is easy to use. Just a little will give the permanence required. As previously mentioned I simply use tap water to thin the paint. I mix to a fairly thin consistency. Experiment to meet your own needs. The black trim is cut from tissue. I shrunk some white tissue on a frame and lightly painted it with black enamel from a spray can. This produced a nice sharp contrast when the markings were applied to the model. Most of the time I simply use black tissue. The letters were applied using 3M Spray Mount Artist's Adhesive #6065. The spray mount is handy for a number of jobs. It's consistency can be controlled by how it is applied, and allowed to set-up. So if you want something to really stick or if you want low tack you have the option. 3M two sided rubber cement tape, also called mounting tape, was used to apply the trim stripes. (Sorry this is all the information on the tape name, although Pres Bruning and Ralph Kuenz call it "snot tape" !). Apply the tissue to the sticky side of the tape. I use a plate of glass to slice the tape on. Virtually any width of trim can be made. The back of the trim tape is simply peeled back leaving you with a light coat of rubber cement on the tissue. One becomes quite comfortable with this material the more it is used. (Works great for canopies). I purchase the 1 " width rolls. A #11 Xacto blade and metal straight edge are used to slice the strips. Tape your work down over a piece of paper which is taped flat over the glass plate. Although the Vega was painted after the model was covered, equal results can be obtained by painting and sealing the tissue on a frame. Make several sheets using the materials mentioned. The tissue can be water shrunk after application to the model. I used thinned white glue to apply the tissue to the model."

Many of us who have seen Paul's Vega and other of his

creations including the fabulous Sunderland can attest that his methods really work and are worth a try. Another look at his Vega is shown in the photo below. We can also add that "Snot Tape" is the perfect way to go for many applications.

