



Press release

JET COATINGS FOR SUPERSONIC CAR

The British-built rocket and jet powered super sonic car 'BLOODHOUND SSC', designed to break the land speed record and be the first to drive through the 1000mph barrier, has been coated in paints designed for high flying jets and military aircraft.

The special coatings were specified and donated by AkzoNobel Aerospace Coatings, who are more used to providing paint systems for the world's commercial airlines and air forces. "As this vehicle will be up against many of the operational and environmental conditions usually experienced by jet aircraft, aerospace coatings are the natural choice," explained Martin Carter, Technical Manager of AkzoNobel Aerospace Coating's UK operation. "We were delighted to have the chance to supply the coatings for such an unusual and iconic vehicle."

BLOODHOUND SSC (Super Sonic Car) developed under project director Richard Noble will be driven by Royal Air Force pilot Andy Green, a partnership that broke the current land speed record of 763mph with the Thrust SSC, the first car to break the sound barrier.



The new record breaking attempt is scheduled to begin in 2011, with a target speed of 800mph before the car is reviewed and modified to aim for the magic 1000mph. To break the boundaries, the super sonic car is powered by a Eurojet EJ200 and a Falcon hybrid rocket. The project is mainly funded by corporate sponsorship and public support and has a wider educational remit to teach, demonstrate and build understanding of the careful use and management of energy. If it is to achieve its target speed, the BLOODHOUND SSC vehicle will have to be the most fuel-efficient Mach 1.4 manned vehicle ever.

AkzoNobel Aerospace Coatings specified products for BLOODHOUND from their Alumigrip® range, a favorite of the business aviation market where high definition, vivid and colorful finishes also need to be tough and durable. The Alumigrip products guarantee a smooth surface that will reduce aerodynamic drag. Two brand

new specific 'BLOODHOUND' colors - in shades of blue and orange- have been developed by AkzoNobel within the Leicester Aerospace facility. These colors will be unique to this vehicle.

A full-scale model of the BLOODHOUND SSC was constructed on the Isle of Wight. AeroComposites Ltd is the preferred specialist coating facility where the coatings are being applied. "We have provided a full technical advice and backup service, just as we would with a jet that flies," Martin added. "Everyone in our office has been excited by the project and we will be following its progress every step of the way!"

Ends

Note to editors

About AkzoNobel

AkzoNobel is proud to be one of the world's leading industrial companies. Based in Amsterdam, the Netherlands, we make and supply a wide range of paints, coatings and specialty chemicals – pro forma 2008 revenue totaled €15.4 billion. In fact, we are the largest global paints and coatings company. As a major producer of specialty chemicals we supply industries worldwide with quality ingredients for life's essentials. We think about the future, but act in the present. We're passionate about introducing new ideas and developing sustainable answers for our customers. That's why our 60,000 employees – who are based in more than 80 countries – are committed to excellence and delivering Tomorrow's Answers Today™.

About AkzoNobel Aerospace Coatings

At AkzoNobel Aerospace Coatings we strive to develop, manufacture and supply high-quality coating solutions to serve the current and future needs of the aviation industry worldwide. We are always finding ways to improve our products and provide new practical answers to customer's needs including reduced process times, technical support, enhanced protection to aircraft, and unique colors with brilliance. We think about the future, but act in the present. We're passionate about developing sustainable answers for our customers.

For more information:

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