

Connecticut's Mystic Aquarium Selects Vycom's Endurabond™ For New Marine Exhibit



To fortify and protect the foundation of its new, interactive exhibit, Mystic Aquarium chose Endurabond™, an engineered PVC for structural use in the marine market as a replacement for wood and metal. Covanta Cove opened on January 22, 2015, and demonstrates how collected marine debris can be turned into clean energy. Mystic Aquarium partnered with Covanta, a leading operator of Energy-from-Waste facilities in Connecticut.



“We chose Endurabond for several reasons, including its water resistance, the fact that it won’t rot, rust or decay, and our ability to apply and bond cement to it to create the outer exhibit,” says Ron Perry, director of exhibits and special projects for the Sea Research Foundation, which includes Mystic Aquarium, Ocean Exploration Center and the JASON Learning.”

Manufactured with a proprietary PVC formulation, Endurabond provides structural support for marine construction that performs far better than wood. Its unique surface finish and formulation result in excellent bonding and adhesion properties, along with superior structural strength, screw retention and impact resistance. It will not delaminate or absorb moisture and creates less dust during fabrication.

In building the dynamic exhibit, Perry used eight sheets of one-half-inch Endurabond, purchased from Total Plastics in Cranston, Rhode Island.

“It cut and drilled just like wood and the edges can be routed very smoothly, more so than other products we have used,” says Perry, adding “It was a nice surprise to find that a dense material could be screwed close to the edge without splitting.”

A marine sealant was applied to the bottom seams and the entire outside was covered with a lightweight cement product with a “river rock” look and painted.

Available in a gray, coarse finish, no-maintenance Endurabond performs well in applications such as boat hulls, support structures that require mechanical fastening, and seat backs and bottoms. It’s easy to work with using standard tools and causes less wear on equipment. The standard sheet size is 48 X 96 inches in ¼, ½, and ¾” thicknesses with custom sizes available upon request. For more information about Endurabond, visit <http://www.vycomplastics.com>.

