

THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Welcome to this **40th anniversary** edition of the **Flints Reference Catalogue**. Whatever field you work in and wherever you are in the world, I hope that you find interest and inspiration in its' pages. Our anniversary cover, beautifully illustrated by Claudia Myatt, features many of the products from our first catalogue cover [how many differences can you spot?] but inside there's many more changes - approximately 850 products that we have added into this new edition alone, so do settle down with a mug of tea [in a Flints mug of course] and get stuck in. We have also changed the layout significantly with products grouped by purpose rather than brand. We have made this change in response to feedback we have received from you, and we hope you find it easier to compare the products we offer; let us know what you think!

As I write our industry is beginning to emerge from the worst period I've ever known. Flints faced many challenges during the pandemic, and there were times in the spring and early summer of 2020 when I felt that the whole live events sector was in danger of disappearing. That it didn't is testament to the Government's support, but even more to the resilience and tenacity of the people working in the creative industries, which has been awe-inspiring. With theatres dark in the throws of lockdown, many of our customers turned to other projects but continued to order from Flints. While driving the Flints van through eerily-quiet London streets, I was struck by just how many people there are working in fine art studios, small workshops, converted industrial buildings, or even at their kitchen tables. Regardless of where they worked, the loyalty shown by customers was both immense and humbling; it is the reason we have reached this 40-year milestone and are able to release this catalogue now. So my first thanks must go to you, our customers, for all those orders placed over the past 40 years; we look forward to serving you for another 40. Thank you for your support and business, it is truly appreciated.

Our friends in Film & TV were able to re-start work in the summer of 2020 whilst theatres remained closed, and so you may notice we have incorporated "Art Department" into some of our branding. Our London van run now encompasses the London film Studios, and the van has become a familiar sight on many studio lots. I am extremely grateful to our Film & TV customers, both new and old, and we look forward to continuing to work with them.

Producing this catalogue is a team effort at Flints but there are a few people that I must thank in particular. We test all our products before selecting them for the catalogue, and most of that work was done this time by our trade counter maestros Jack & Liz. Thanks also to John and Emily in our purchasing team for the hours they spent sourcing products and collating specifications - it's such an important part of the catalogue. Thank you to Andy for signing off on the expenditure, despite the financial pressures we were under at the time. Most of all thank you to Hannah, our Marketing Manager. Hannah has managed to design, layout and write large parts of this catalogue mostly on her own, and entirely from home. It has been a truly amazing effort by her, for which I am extremely grateful.

The challenges in our working lives were nothing compared to the personal ones we faced during the pandemic. So, on a personal note, I would like to mention one friend of mine, and many of you, who we lost during the pandemic, David Collis. I first met David when he was working at the Unicorn Theatre in London as their Set and Costume Designer but his beautiful designs graced many theatre and opera companies' stages in a long career including English National Opera, Nottingham Playhouse and the Royal Lyceum, Edinburgh. For me, David represented all that makes British theatre great and working in it even better. Not only was he supremely gifted but he was also generous, warm-hearted and kind; to friends, to colleagues and to the students who were lucky enough to be taught and inspired by him in the latter part of his career. As he was fond of saying to his friend Anne, "I T F darling - Isn't theatre fun!" He was right of course. Theatre is fun, and that's the reason why I am sure it will roar back to life just as soon as the foyer doors are allowed to open. After the year we have had, we could all do with some fun in our lives, and I for one am looking forward to taking my seat in the auditorium to enjoy the fruits of your labours.



Ben Lyle, Managing Director

SYMBOLS & GUIDE TO CATALOGUE

-  This product is new to our catalogue
 -  Marine product
 -  We love it
 -  Sells like hot cakes
 -  Cheap as chips
 -  Excellent value product
 -  Separate brochure available
 -  Colour swatch available
 -  Video available
 -  Suitable for Personal Protective Equipment
 -  Product suitable for lifting operations
 -  Product is CE marked [used only sparingly]
 -  Product is also available to hire
 -  Adhesion value in approximate newtons per 10 mm
 -  Regrettably, no longer available
 -  This item is being sold as cheap as we dare go before Andy Repka, our Finance Director, shouts at us
 -  This product is a Flints Own product
-  **Flints is approved to ISO 9001: 2015**

 **Flints is a member of the Association of British Theatre Technician Industry Supporters Group**

 **Flints is a full member of the Lifting Equipment Engineers Association**

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 **We accept most credit cards.**

