



Polyurethane in the sign industry

Polyurethanes are very widely used in the home and in industry. They are generally recognised as the most widely used product for street furniture applications such as bollards, lamp posts, fingerposts arms, coats of arms and street signs. Also used extensively in the automotive industry to make car bumpers and car floor mats, in transport to make wheels for bicycles, wheelchairs and roller skates and in the manufacture of skate boards. The list is endless.



Did you know.....?

Many shoes have soles made of polyurethane - you are probably wearing some now!



Traditionally signs were cast in iron, bronze, brass or aluminium using the time honoured sandcasting methods.

Yesterday's Elegance Today's Technology



Over 28 years ago Signs of the Times pioneered the method of sand casting signs in a solid rigid polyurethane. Today at Signs of the Times we cast most of our signs in polyurethane. Especially formulated to suit our purposes our polyurethane has withstood the test of time. Signs manufactured 28 years ago are still in perfect condition only requiring a new coat of paint to return them to their original condition.

Advantages for sign manufacture.

- Polyurethane is very durable and resilient.
- It resists chemical attack and severe weather conditions including salt water exposure.
- It is impervious to insects and does not rot.
- Practically inert towards the environment and it contains no atmosphere damaging chlorofluorocarbons.
- It has a closed cell structure. This makes it very stable and prevents moisture from seeping under the surface coatings and lifting the paint.
- It's chemical composition can be engineered to give specific physical properties.
- It can be manufactured in a variety of hardnesses from soft flexible rubber-like material to the hardness required to coat a golf ball
- Polyurethane is one of today's toughest, most wear and abrasion resistant materials available.
- Load bearing capabilities that makes it suitable for post mounting unsupported.
- Lighter than metals so easier to handle.

Today sandcasting still plays a very prominent role in the manufacture of signs here, though other more modern methods are used in the making of some of the moulds as well. Our expertise in casting items from small house signs to large complex city entrance signs and complicated coats of arms is reflected in the crisp clean castings achieved. Size is only limited by the area of our largest sand casting box which measures 3m x 1.5m

Flame Retardant

Signs of the Times' polyurethane contains 25% of flame retardant fillers. This is proven flame retardant technology resulting from the electronic industry where polyurethanes are now widely used as insulation protection for electricity and electrical devices.

Technical Information - available on request.

Signs of the Times

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