Last Month's Demonstration: VMS Products Overview

by Tabb Tharrington

Vantage Modelling Solutions (VMS) from Poland offers many different products useful in all aspect of modeling. Tabb says the products work as advertised and some have become favorites that are frequently used. All products have helpful videos on YouTube that demonstrate their use. You can learn about or purchase all the products on www.vms-supplies.com or purchase from the US-based vendor Michigan Toy Soldier Co.

Slo-mo Retarder Brush

This product slows acrylic paint from drying and greatly reduces brush strokes. Tabb likes this for figure painting. It extends the wetness of Vallejo and Tamiya paints so that mistakes can be corrected and the no brush strokes are present. Use one drop for every drop of paint.

Airbrush Thinners 2.0

Tabb says this is the best acrylic thinner that he's found. It works perfectly for Vallejo and Tamiya paints. You can even airbrush Vallejo Model Color paint with it, leaving a nice smooth finish when dry. There is also a concentrate but Tabb hasn't tried that yet.

Decal Set & Soften 2 in 1

This is the best decal softener that Tabb has tried. It does not bead up like Micro Scale; it is slightly thicker to perfectly work with a wet decal. It also grabs the decal and pulls it down very effectively. It claims to work on even the thickest decals after a pre-soak.

Empty Bottles

These bottles can store any fluid, even lacquer-based, have a tiny eyedropper built in and don't spill the contents if tipped. Also good for storing CA accelerant.

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Varnish HD Topcoat (Satin)

This clear varnish is used straight from the bottle without thinner. It's good for smoothing out decal edges. Also comes in Matt and Gloss.

Flexy 5K CA for PE & for DIO

The VMS CA cement is not brittle. The "PE" formula is a gel and sets up in about 30 seconds, so it's good for photo-etched details. The "DIO" formula is thinner. There's also "Black" with even more flexibility and slow setting formulas.

Glue-Remove Debonder

This debonder has a built-in brush and doesn't craze styrene like some debonders.

Metal Prep 4K

This clear primer for metal surfaces is designed to bite the metal so that acrylic paints don't chip off.

Liquid Mask

This mask is a good medium consistency and when dry will peel of in one piece, unlike most other masks.

Clean Slate rmvr 2.0

This will break down acrylic paint very effectively. A separate formula works on enamel paints.

Acrylic Binders

Use the "Finishing Resin" formula for paper tarps and the "Structuring Resin" to mix with pigments to for a paste to apply in clumps on dirty areas of the chassis.

Alkyd Binders

Used with pigments to break surface tension and also extend working time to about 9 hours. Available in "MATT" and "WET FX" (gloss) formulas. Perfect for making pigment washes.

Spot-On Pigments

Dry pigments that come in three different grades: Zero, Fine and Coarse. Also, "washed" formulas are designed as less intense versions of the standard colors.

Smart Mud XL 2.0

This product is moldable but has a texture and takes imprints well, such as track or footprint marks. Tabb doesn't recommend using over untreated foam but it's great over any pre-made earth material.





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Chip and Nick Smart Chipping Paint / Aid

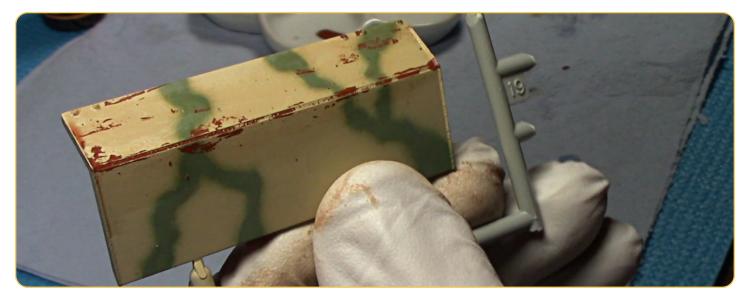
This creates chipped paint effects, but is somewhat the reverse of other techniques that use hairspray or tiny chips with brush. The paint comes in 10 different colors: greys, browns, rusts and greens.

- First paint the model the base color. Then paint the chip colors onto the model, covering all areas where chipping is desired.
- Allow to dry, then use a brush wet with Chip & Nick Aid to remove the chipping paint. The paint will come off in flakes, forming random chips that can be controlled with your brush work.





• Seal it with a clear for the final step.



Paper Shaper

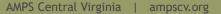
Used with the VMS WFU Modelling Paper you can make scale tarps and the when dry it's rigid and smooth for painting.

- Soak the paper thoroughly in Paper Shaper. Crumple or fold the paper slightly and drape over stowage or structural shapes. Use a soft paintbrush wet with Paper Shaper to shape the paper creases. Allow to dry overnight.
- It works best on unpainted surfaces. You can paint around it later, or remove the part using VMS Clean Slate. Finish with two coats of VMS Acrylic Binders "Finishing Resin" formula and it will prevent any paper grain from showing.

Hull-Tex Cement & Texture This is a two-part set. The clear cement is first applied by brush to areas to receive texture. Next, the texture bottle dispenses the finegrain aggregate onto the wet cement. Allow to dry and your texture is done.







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