



23030



PO Box 40647, Cleveland, Johannesburg, 2022, South Africa

OFFSHORE REELS UPGRADED WITH ADVANCED POLYMER

Charter captains rely on their tackle to make a living. Breakdowns can ruin a day of fishing and cause a loss of revenue. When the handles of two of their expensive Shimano Tiagra 50 reels began to fail, Go Fisch Charters of Ponta do Ouro, Mozambique, turned to the South Africa-based Shirleys Engraving. The repair shop replaced the failed grips with Vesconite, the easily machined, self-lubricating polymer.

Offshore fishing boats in Mozambique are typically beach launched. Carried on the wind and anglers' shoes, the fine sand makes its way onto the boat and into every crevice it can find. Reels are especially vulnerable; even with routine maintenance, the grit erodes components, causes corrosion and loosens parts. Over time, this leads to failure.

Shirleys Engraving's James Porter milled handle stainless steel shafts for the Shimanos and machined new grips out of Vesconite. Beefier than the originals, the replacements will better tolerate the harsh beach conditions they're routinely subjected to. The result is a strong, smooth action.

"Over the years, I have found that Vesconite is the best material for the manufacture of reel handles," said Porter. "It outlasts ball bearings and bronze bushes, especially in deep sea fishing where corrosion is always a problem."

-more-

Vesconite is a high-performance polymer that has 10 times the wear life of bronze. Sand, silt and mud are no match for the material. Because it's internally lubricated, it's very low maintenance. In fact, a freshwater flush is sufficient. It doesn't swell in water like many plastics, so close tolerances can be kept.

The polymer is available for immediate shipment from the company's US warehouse. Easily machined to +/-0.001", hollow bar, solid rod and plate shapes are offered in a wide range of dimensions and thicknesses.

Contact Vesconite, PO Box 40647, Cleveland, Johannesburg 2022, South Africa. US toll-free: 866-635-7596; Fax: 212-937-3184.
vesconite@vesconite.com; www.vesconite.com.