

West Coast Here We Come

Leisure Pools Obtains ICC Approval

After three and a half years in the application process, Leisure Pools has been granted International Code Council (ICC) approval. "This is a major milestone for our company" says CEO Ashley Gill. Leisure Pools is the first company to pass the ICC's new acceptance criteria AC274 and comply with the entire alternative testing requirements for new entrants. "We were told that it would be extremely difficult to pass but persistence has paid off" says Gill.

Pool Quality

"The high quality of the raw materials was the deciding factor" says Howard Guidry, Operations Manager for Leisure Pools. "The PPG 6313 fiberglass that we use is simply the best available. Combine that with the AOC Viprel Vinyl Ester resins and the AOC Isothalic resin that we use in our pools and it all came together. Our pools had to pass chemical resistance tests that exposed the surface to a range of chemicals and acids. They passed with flying colors" says Guidry.

Some of the tests produced flexural strengths at 21,000 psi, far higher than the required 12,000 psi. It is a testament to the technology Leisure Pools employs in the build process.

Carbon Arc Testing

One of the big alternative tests Leisure Pools had to pass was the exposure to ultra UV done via a Carbon Arc test. Basically, pool samples are exposed to welding rods in a chamber for 1500 hours continuously (62 days). When completed the surface must not show any UV effects. It equates to

around 30 years UV exposure and the fact that our pools passed speaks volumes about the quality and integrity of the Aquaguard® gelcoats Leisure Pools uses. Aquaguard gelcoats were developed specifically for swimming pools in the harsh Australian UV environment. Available in five stunning colors, Aquaguard gelcoats have been in research and development for 15 years and now represent the finest swimming pool surface product available any where in the world.

Opening up the West Coast

For five years Leisure Pools has not been able to sell pools to dealers on the West Coast because pool permitting requirements need an ICC approval number for the fiberglass pool shell. "Essentially the market has been locked up by incumbent manufacturers who were grandfathered in from the old ICBO" according to Paul Pusztay Business Development Director for Leisure Pools. "This will open up the biggest pool markets in the USA for Leisure Pools. We will launch our West Coast expansion at the Las Vegas Pools and Spa show in November this year", says Pusztay. Leisure Pools will open up two new distribution yards on the west coast, one in the north and one in the south to serve dealers in the area.

"It is all part of our growth strategy" says Gill. "Our Super Plant will come on line in November this year. It has been designed to produce 5000 pools annually and will supply pools nationwide through 5 separate distribution points" says Gill. In a very short time, Leisure Pools has become a major fiberglass pool manufacturer. With the West Coast opening up, plus continued nationwide expansion, the management team expects a bright future. For further information contact:



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