



# BL Searle Replace Fasteners With Crestabond® To Speed Up Production & Improve Aesthetics

## Company Profile - BL Searle Ltd/ Aalco Ltd

**LOCATION : Bedfordshire and Surrey, UK**

- Established commercial vehicle body manufacturer since the mid 1970s, BL Searle **build** and **repair** commercial vehicle bodies, truck bodies, specialist and bespoke vehicle bodies for a range of markets.
- BL Searle is a **family owned** and run business with workshops in **Gamlingay**, near Sandy, dedicated to achieving **high quality** end products. They specialise in high quality conversions with superb attention to detail to produce a vehicle to meet and **exceed customer specifications**.
- BL Seale previously used **mechanical fasteners** and a single part **MS Polymer sealant/adhesive** in combination to assemble vehicles, but now prefer Crestabond, an MMA (methyl methacrylate), supplied by Aalco.

**aalco**



## Crestabond Application

**Crestabond® M7-15, M1-05 & M1-20**

Scott Bader's Crestabond adhesives are now used and supplied by Aalco in the production areas to produce GRP boxes and toolboxes. The versatility of this product has **reduced assembly times** and enabled BL Searle to produce **light weight** structures with **better aesthetical appeal**.

- Application
- Using **Crestabond M7-15** to bond **Aluminium** faced Aalco panels to **Zinc** coated frame.
  - Using **Crestabond M1-05** to bond **Aluminium** cappings to the **Aluminium** Aalco panels around the toolbox assembly.
  - Also using **Crestabond M1-05** and **Crestabond M1-20** to bond **Aluminium** and **Stainless Steel** to **GRP Body Panels**. These are aluminium captive corner pillars, captive cant rail, rub rail and side raves as well as the stainless steel rear frames to the GRP panels.
  - Crestabond is applied with **manual** and **pneumatic** applicator guns straight from **400ml cartridges**.

- Advantages
- Increased throughput** of finished parts due to faster cure times than MS Polymer and mechanical fasteners.
  - Primer-less technology meaning no need for primers and abrasion to **bond dissimilar substrates** – Minimal surface preparation.
  - Labour saving** and reduction of potential water **ingress points** as no drilling of cappings or panels.
  - Different working and cure times of **adhesives suited** to different sized parts within the assembly process.
  - Elimination** of 220+ mechanical **fastener** heads on the vehicle body leading to great **aesthetical appeal** of finished part.



## Benefits/Advantages

- ✓ Supplied direct from your metals supplier, Aalco
- ✓ Adhesive cure speed matched to manufacturing process & part size
- ✓ Production time reduced and increased throughput of finished parts due to faster cure times
- ✓ Able to bond dissimilar substrates – Primer-less Technology
- ✓ Reduced labour (drilling) through elimination of 220+ mechanical fasteners to improve aesthetical appearance
- ✓ Lighter weight structure produced compared to previous assembly
- ✓ Technology developed and fully supported by Scott Bader

## Customer Quote

“ BL Searle produce a **high quality** product and are open to using **new technology** to provide a better looking vehicle to our customers whilst retaining this high quality specification. By using Crestabond adhesives we have not only **saved time and money** but we believe our vehicles are **aesthetically more pleasing** with the reduction/elimination of mechanical fasteners giving nice clean lines to our bodywork. With Scott Baders technical support and assistance we have now introduced **Crestabond®** as the **adhesive of choice** in the assembly of our vehicles. ”

Stephen Searle, Director.