

# North Sea Resins offers a quick fix

Its Rapid Repair Kit is designed to stop pipe and tank leaks.

BY MICHAEL CROWLEY

A water tank is leaking. Or maybe you've got to figure out a way to repair the connection at the fuel tank that has been dripping fuel in the bilge. And you have to do a good enough job so that you don't have to slither back to the tank in another day or so to redo the work.

North Sea Resins' pipe and tank Rapid Repair Kit, which originated in the murky world of naval special operations, might be just the repair tool you need. The Navy was interested in being able to rapidly attach things underwater.

"We looked at that technology that bonds rapidly to a variety of objects underwater, and said does it have a relevance to the industrial market," says Eric Eisenhut, president of North Sea Resins in Bethlehem, Penn.

To find out, Eisenhut took the concept to Fish Expos in Providence, R.I., and

Seattle, Wash., to get feedback from fishermen and workboat operators on how they would use the product. That research yielded a product that doesn't need to be mixed and cures in 30 seconds on wet or dry surfaces — metal or plastic.

Say you have a pinhole in a refrigeration pipe; all you have to do is relieve the pressure in the pipe, roughen up the surface, apply the resin to an applicator tab — which doesn't absorb the resin — and apply the resin to the pinhole.

Now take a high-intensity blue light (all these items come in the repair kit), shine the light on the resin, and it cures within 30 seconds. The blue light is not an ultraviolet light. You don't have to wear goggles when using it and it won't harm your skin.

The repair kit has also been used to put a patch on a 1/2-inch hole in the steel housing of a ferry's water-jet thruster. And because the North Sea Resins' pipe and

tank repair kit has NSF-61 certification, which is a drinking water safety standard, it can be used for repairs on equipment that has anything to do with food preparation. That includes ice machines or water systems in a factory trawler's processing room.

The North Sea Resins' product doesn't make a permanent fix; it is a repair kit. It shouldn't be used to try and make structural repairs and shouldn't be used for repairs when the pressure is more than 800 pounds per square inch. On a hole larger than 1/4 inch, you'll need to use a



*A HIGH-INTENSITY blue light, supplied with the kit, cures the resin within 30 seconds without the need for protective wear.*

fiberglass cloth, which comes with the kit.