

SOLDERING CHALLENGED ?

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Published in the September 2014 issue of the WHAM newsletter, Jeff Englert, Editor

a bit pricey @ \$8.95 but at the rate I've been using it the small tube is going to last me quite a while. Order online @ www.micromark.com Their catalogue is just crammed full of neat things for the hobbyist. Check it out. Bill

C'mon admit it. I have been surprised how many hobbyists can't solder and are afraid to admit to it. I had some club members over to my shop too many years ago to remember, to give a class on soldering technique. What surprised me most was that they had shied away from having any Kester's soldering flux in their workshop. They were victims of the constant propaganda not to use any acid solder or soldering fluxes in their work. How do you clean the soldering iron tip? How do you get solder to tin and take to wires and wiring? I showed them how to tin difficult music wire for landing gears by holding the wire in the soldering paste and applying the tinned soldering iron tip to the area to be soldered after wrapping the joint with soft binding wire. You can actually touch the two pieces to be joined together prior to wire wrapping with the tinned soldering iron to stick them together and check your fit. If it's not right then just touch the iron to the joint to separate it and re-bend the pieces and try again until you get it right. No wonder folks avoid models with cabane assys. Such as the Cleveland Thermalier or the Ace Whitman Falcon. There are more but I can't think of them right now.

Okay. Here's the good news. In the micro Mark Catalogue they have listed a product in a small white tube named "Solder-It". Not too dramatic a name huh? The contents consists of a paste like flux with small particulates of a type of silver solder. The label states that there is no lead, cadmium or antimony. It has a low melting point of 430 degrees. It can be used with a soldering iron, open flame, butane, propane, acetylene or Map gas. It is easy to use with no skill or flux is required. It is 5 times as strong as ordinary solder and will join 22 different combinations of metals. The finish joint is bright and shiny like silver and will not tarnish or blacken. It is made in Pleasantville, NY and that's a plus. I have been using it and can say that all the above seems true. You should clean the finished joint of residue with lacquer or dope thinner when finished to see the bright joint and to prevent subsequent corrosion.

I haven't looked for this product in any local stores and don't know if any of them carry it. The Micro Mark latest page is pg. 13 and the p/n is #60664. It's