Why Pro Plug™?

The technique of using wood plugs to hide screw heads has been around for hundreds of years. There are two basic reasons for its continuing popularity. The first of which is practical — they cover and protect the heads of screws. The second reason is that they create a high finish aesthetic, which is indicative of serious craftsmanship and attention to detail.

In recent years, two things have provoked a resurgence in the use of plugs and a need for a faster and better plugging system.

In the case of wood decking, many professionals have been uneasy with hidden clip systems and similar methods, which they believe compromise performance for aesthetics.

The popularity of wide plank flooring and its tendency to cup in many species strongly suggests a need for face screwing and plugging.

At Starborn Industries, Inc. we took notice of the increasing use of plugs in wood decking and flooring and set about developing a new system that made plugging quicker and easier, while delivering a superior look, plug after plug.

The result of our efforts is the new SMART-BIT® PRO PLUG™ System for Wood. For the first time there is a specially engineered system for installing wood plugs in decks, flooring and woodworking applications. All of the system components have been carefully and precisely engineered to maximize performance and also provide the best aesthetic result of any plugging system to date. Additionally, in timed trials, PRO PLUG™ has been shown to cut installation time by as much as half.

One only needs to purchase a simple set of PRO PLUG™ components to experience how the once difficult task of plugging can be available to all, with strikingly positive results.

All you really need to get started are two PRO PLUG™ items — the PRO PLUG™ Tool for Wood and PRO PLUG™ Plug & Fastener Kit — along with a bottle of wood glue and some simple tools.

Component Packs

Packs of individual components are also available in quantities of 100 for both plugs and screws, and individual packs for nozzles. Please contact us for more details.

An Engineered System

The SMART-BIT® PRO PLUG™ System was tightly engineered to create a perfect looking and fitting result. Therefore, only PRO PLUG™ components should be used together.

The PRO PLUG™ Tool creates a screw hole and countersink portion that is perfectly matched to the PRO PLUG™ Fasteners. All aspects of the screw were considered in engineering the hole: shank diameter, overall length, countersink angle, head height and head diameter. The tool also creates a counterbore portion that is perfectly matched to the PRO PLUG™ Plug.

The PRO PLUG™ Glue Nozzle coats the side of the hole, which is where the glue is needed for holding power. Little to no glue ends up on the bottom, where it is not needed and where excess glue can create a hydraulic lock preventing full plug insertion.

The plugs themselves combine the best of flared and straight-walled plug designs. Starborn Industries, Inc.'s unique chamfer design with reduced flare angle offers easy insertion and an extremely tight fit as the plug compresses around the top of the hole. This allows for complete insertion of the plug without sawing or chiseling off the top portion. The flare angle is so slight that any pushing up effect with weathering is minimal to zero.

Note: The system is covered by existing and pending U.S. and International patents.