Color on Trailing Edges

By Al Cleave

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The comment on page 10 of the newsletter concerning coloring the aft edge of trailing edges brought to mind a few thoughts in passing --- I found that some colors of Japanese tissue fade so badly that after just a relatively short time there would be a dramatic color difference between the tissue and colored edge.

My solution was to apply dope to the edge-of-the-edge after covering the top of a surface; while still wet, pull the tissue down 90 degrees to cover the edge, hit it with a hot Monokote trim seal iron, and then trim off the excess even with the bottom of the surface.

A combination of dope, damp tissue; and the hot iron can result in amazing results on all compound curves, even nose blocks and wheel pants. The latter can be covered with a single piece of tissue with no wrinkles, overlaps, or slices.