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*AN ART CONSERVATION EQUIPMENT COMPANY*

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*EQUIPMENT, SUPPLIES, AND SERVICES FOR INSTITUTIONS AND INDIVIDUALS*

## **LAPONITE RD**

A synthetic clay, supplied as a fine white powder, Laponite swells to produce a clear, colorless thixotropic gel when dispersed in water. It is used in the conservation of stone, metals, organic materials, ceramics and paintings. The UKIC's Conservation News (Issue 46, November 1991) describes in some detail the use of Laponite to remove old water-soluble adhesives (i.e. Glue paste) and to soften ingrained dirt to facilitate its removal from stone and ceramics.

pH = 9.8 at 2% suspension

Gel forms at 2% concentration, colloidal dispersion

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