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Recommendations for Applying UHMW Tapes

Durasurf UHMW products supplied with pressure sensitive tapes are subject to breakdown when in contact with contaminated surfaces. Therefore, proper surface preparation is the most critical element in the laminating operation.

A conscious effort on the part of the installer is required. The substrate should be as smooth and clean as possible. To prepare the substrate for bonding, wipe with a clean cloth. If oil or heavy contamination is present, you may need to use a totally evaporating solvent such as lacquer thinner. If only light soil and surface dust is present, an isopropyl wipe should be sufficient. Turn the cloth frequently to avoid recontaminating the surface.

Once the surface is clean and dry, apply the pressure sensitive system. Be careful when pulling off the release liner, refraining from skin contact with the adhesive. Skin contact could potentially reduce bond strength. It is recommended that, when applying long lengths, remove only 600mm to 900mm of liner at a time to make it easier to control. Once the product has been installed, a "J" roller or hand roller should be used to assure proper pressure and secure the bond.

It is only necessary to apply Durasurf to one bearing surface, preferably the fixed surface.

It is recommended that the temperature be above 50°F when applying pressure sensitive tapes.

Removing or Replacing UHMW Tapes

When removing UHMW tapes, pry up one corner with a screwdriver or scraper and peel the plastic strip up using a pliers or vise grip. Remove residual adhesive with a clean rag and lacquer thinner or other permissible solvent. Do not use mineral spirits as it is oil-based and will leave a residual film.

If the adhesive backing was an Avery Dennison™ 8345 (rubber based), the adhesive will contain a .0005" Mylar® carrier as a support. When removing the adhesive, you may need to scrape the residue to break through this carrier. The remaining adhesive can be removed by wiping with a rag and solvent. Make sure the surface is clean and dry before applying new UHMW.