

TEST PROCEDURE GUIDELINES

TEST METHODS: SCUFF RESISTANCE

PURPOSE OF PROCEDURE:

To determine the in-mold label's resistance to scuffing.

DEFINITION OF TERMS:

Scuffing is the rubbing of two materials against one another.

Damage which has taken place through rubbing.

EQUIPMENT/MATERIALS NEEDED:

1. Sutherland Rub Tester.
2. 4 pound (2 kg) test block.
3. Customer specified material (e.g. Kraft paper, cardboard, sandpaper).

PREPARATION OF MATERIALS:

Cut one sample 2" x 7" (5 cm x 18cm) and the other sample 3" x 6" (7.5 cm x 15cm) from the printed material to be tested. Be sure that samples include all colors being used.

TEST PROCEDURE:

Attach the 3" x 6" (7.5 cm x 15cm) sample to the base of the tester with the printed side up. Attach the 2" x 7" (5 cm x 18cm) sample to the 4 pound (2 kg) test weight and place in position over the 3" x 6" (7.5 cm x 15cm) sample so that the printed sides are face to face. (Be sure to use customer specified material in place of the 2" x 7" [5 cm x 18 cm] sample where required by customer.)

Set the tester for the number of strokes as called for in the customer specification (typically 100 cycles) and start the machine. After the required number of strokes, examine the samples for any signs of ink transfer or scuffing.

Note: If the label is likely to experience scuffing under unusual conditions, (i.e. in the presence of moisture) the test method should be modified to simulate those conditions.

DOCUMENTATION:

Report the condition of the sample and the number of strokes that were used. Label and retain samples for reference.

SCUFF RESISTANCE (cont'd)

The allowable tolerance that is agreed upon by the customer should be in written specifications provided by the customer.

The frequency of the test to be performed must also be agreed upon by the customer. That is to say that the customer should provide in his specification how often the test is to be done and by what form of sampling method, (random or non-random). These will be used to record results.

Many customers will require representative samples to be kept in inventory to reference in the event that the customer finds a defect in the provided order. This frequency of these retains should also be specified to ensure compliance.

REFERENCES: