

Storage, Maintenance and Cleaning of PVC Films

Instructional Bulletin #1.20 (Revision 3)

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1.0 Storage and Maintenance

- Unapplied markings need to be stored in a controlled environment $72^{\circ}\pm 5^{\circ}\text{F}$ ($22^{\circ}\pm 3^{\circ}\text{C}$) and $50 \pm 5\%$ R.H. free from excessive airborne dust and direct sunlight. The PSA material and/or decal needs to be applied within the shelf life specified for the particular product being used. Rolls in the shipping carton should be stored horizontally; rolls which have been removed from the shipping carton should be suspended horizontally via a rod or pipe through the roll core.

2.0 Hand or Manual of Cleaning of PVC Film

- The cleaning solution should be a pH range of 3 to 11 (within mild acid or mild alkaline limits). The cleaning solution should be non-abrasive and free of strong solvents. *Follow all manufacturers' directions for care, safety instructions, and use of their cleaning solutions, and also any detailed instructions in regards to dilution requirements.* The following cleaning agents have been successfully used for the cleaning of PVC film surfaces:

Quill International Ind. PLC (Cab Cleaner)
Castle Lane, Melbourne DE731DY-U.K.
Tel: 0332866664
Fax: 0332863292

Dreumex BV (Heavy Duty Industrial Cleaner)
1 Dommelstaat 5347JK Oss-Netherlands
Tel: 04120 48506
Fax: 04120 48386

Fabrika Illirija (Vinyl Cleaner)
40 Trzaska Cesta, 61000 - Slovenia
Tel: 016 123 1461
Fax: 061 123 2180

Spartan Chemical Co., Inc. (RTU Handi Spray)
110 N. Westwood Ave., Toledo, Ohio 43607 -
U.S.A.
Tel: 419-531 5551
Fax: 419-536 8423

Craftics, Inc (Izenglass Vinyl Cleaner)
2701 N. Pulaski
Chicago, IL 60639
Distributor: Piedmont Plastics (531-733-9200)

Vandalism Mark & Stain Remover – No. 870
Sprayway, Inc.
484 Vista Ave.
Addison, IL 60101

So-Safe – Graffiti Remover
Park Land Associates, Inc.
P.O. Box 104
Marina, CA 93933
Tel: 800-444-4066

Big Orange – Citrus Degreaser, Deoderant and
Graffiti Remover
ZEP Manufacturing Company – Div. Of National
Service Industries, Inc.
Atlanta, GA 30301

DC-99
D.W. Davies & Co., Inc.
3200 Phillips Avenue
Racine, WI 53403
Tel: 800-888-6133

- When using high-pressure equipment, a pressure of 1200 psi (80 bars or 84 kg/cm²) and a water temperature of 120°F (50°C) should not be exceeded. In order to reduce the risk of decal edge lift, a minimum distance of 12-in. (30-cm) should be maintained from the nozzle to the film surface. In addition, the dispenser nozzle should be as perpendicular to the film surface as possible (increased angles of the water jet promote decal edge lift).
- Spray or wipe (with a soft brush, rag or sponge) the cleaning solution over the entire surface of the film to be cleaned (avoid abrading the film surface with unnecessary scrubbing); thoroughly agitate and mix the cleaning solution into the dirt on the film's surface; rinse the entire surface with clean water and let air dry or dab dry being careful not to lift film edges.

Graphic Care DOs and DON'Ts

DO wash the graphics with plain soap and water or any car wash detergent. Rinse thoroughly.

DO keep high-pressure spray nozzles at least 1 1/2 feet from the edge of the graphics. High-pressure spray may cause the edge of the graphic to lift and peel.

DO test any cleaning solution on a small section of the graphic before using.

DON'T use any aromatic solvents such as acetone, M.E.K., toluene, paint thinner or lacquer thinner on the graphics. Solvents may soften the vinyl and smear colors.

DON'T let gasoline or other fuels drip or stay on the graphics for any length of time. If a spill occurs, wipe off and rinse with water immediately.

DON'T apply paint or clearcoat over the graphics.

DON'T apply wax over the graphics, especially if the wax contains any petroleum distillates. Wax that has dried along the edge of a graphic can be removed with cotton swabs after softening it with isopropyl alcohol. Be sure to rinse the area thoroughly after cleaning.

3.0 Automatic Truck Washing Equipment

- The cleaning solution should have a pH of 3-11. Dilution ratios of the cleaning solutions, as recommended by the manufacturer should be closely followed to reduce/minimize film or ink degradation.
- All brushes should be soft and non-abrasive to the inks, and PVC surfaces.
- Water temperatures should not exceed 120°F (50°C).
- Spray pressure should not exceed 1000 psi (67 bars or 70kg/cm²)
- Final clean water rinse is necessary.
- No cleaner should dwell longer than 60 seconds on the vehicle side.

MVP – Maximum Versatility Product
 Cleaner & Degreaser
 Tri-Star Industrial Products
 12049 Regentview Avenue
 Downey, CA 90241
 Tel: 800-700-8008
 Fax: 562-862-6810

NOTE: The above recommendations and cleaners are intended as a source of information and are given without a guarantee and do not constitute a warranty. Purchasers should independently test cleaning agents and methods, prior to use, to determine their suitability.

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Revisions have been italicized

For additional questions call the Avery Dennison Answerline at 1-800-443-9380, or your sales representative.