



## Adhesive Technology

With our Self Adhesive Anti-Slip Tapes and Pads one of the most critical parts of the product range is the adhesive. We rarely get asked about what adhesives are utilised on our Anti-Slip Tapes but to us, it is something that occupies a great deal of our efforts. As the uses are so varied that subsequently means the adhesive has to adhere securely to a variety of substrates. Like most chemicals pressure sensitive adhesives (PSA) have constantly improved their capabilities, the adhesives we use on our range of anti-slip tapes and Pads is vastly superior to the materials we supplied back in the 1990's. Levels of tack, shear and temperature range have improved dramatically, all to the benefit for our customers ensuring total quality. Please find the most common adhesive questions below.

### **What PSA do we use?**

We generally use modified acrylics (there are a tiny handful of exceptions for specific non slip flooring applications). We like the all round capabilities that modern modified acrylic PSAs offer, as mentioned previously our product has many varied demands made of it, we appreciate that the modified acrylics allow high tack levels, high shear levels and superb temperature ranges encompassing extreme minus °C to high °C. All our transparent range has a further PSA modification to ensure no UV problems, please enquire for specific grey scale tests for each product if this is a concern.

### **Do you offer different adhesion levels?**

We do. In over 99.9% of cases our adhesives on the anti-slip flooring are more than sufficient, however, for clients with a special demand for higher tack levels we also coat our HG adhesive. For customers who take our HG x-coarse product, this adhesive is standard on their materials, for all others it can be coated dependent on quantity. Our HG offers exceptionally high tack levels without any compromise on the other parameters.

### **How well do your adhesives cope with low energy surfaces?**

Low energy surfaces are becoming more prevalent and popular for various reasons; they are often the by-product of a shiny appearance or can be present in composites constructed from recycled plastics. An example of a low energy surface would be after you have waxed your car you will notice the water globules form small puddles on the

surface, the puddles are formed by the low energy surface, and these low energy surfaces create major problems for PSAs. Our manufacturer has worked tirelessly to ensure that our anti slip flooring customers receive a high quality anti-slip product regardless of the surface energy level, to this end in 2008 we developed our LE adhesive. Specifically designed to allow excellent adhesion onto difficult surfaces this adhesive can be coated onto all our range, please enquire for MOQs.

### **What if our low energy surface has lots of release agents?**

We can still create a solution. Due to the vast experience in adhesives, films and anti-slip technology we have never (so far) been defeated, we also offer two other possible solutions to aid our adhesion levels.

- 1). Use of H3506 primer – this has inbuilt keying agents.
- 2). Use of a specific keying solution – Our Manufacturer has worked with various chemical manufacturers to create surface keying solutions to enable adhesion on even the most difficult surface.

### **I want the opposite to the above points, I want something removable, is it possible?**

It is. It is not rare for us to coat a removable adhesive onto our anti slip flooring. We typically employ a further filmic liner (usually PET or PP) with a differential adhesive coat either side to allow removal. As each removable adhesive application is often unique the differential levels are customised to the customer's application, please enquire.

### **Just one more silly point, why does the paper not stick to the adhesive?**

We use paper coated with silicon although on some of our materials we employ a silicon coated PE film.