



Where innovative ideas take hold.

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

ACRYLIC VS. RUBBER PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVES

DISCUSSION:

Most Compac insulation tapes are manufactured using high quality, high performance acrylic pressure sensitive adhesives (psa). These adhesives offer a broad combination of the following attributes:

- High peel and shear adhesive strength
- Aggressive tack
- Wide application temperature range
- Permanent bond

Rubber based adhesives typically exhibit very aggressive tack and initial bond, which can give the impression of superior adhesion performance. However, they do not offer the long-term properties of an acrylic psa. While acrylics tend to get stronger and stronger over time, rubber based adhesives begin to suffer degradation over time. While a properly selected and installed acrylic tape can be expected to adhere indefinitely, rubber based tape can be expected to have a limited life.

Rubber psa tapes may offer an initial cost savings as well, but there is a reason for it – the overall performance in most insulation applications is not the equal of acrylic tape.

RECOMMENDATION:

Use of acrylic psa tapes is highly recommended for ease of installation and long term performance of professionally installed insulation systems.

FURTHER INFORMATION:

For further information and to discuss specific questions, please contact our Technical Service Manager at 1-877-5COMPAC (1-877-526-6722).

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