

Quality Above All

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Did you know? "Not all Aqueous Coatings are equal"

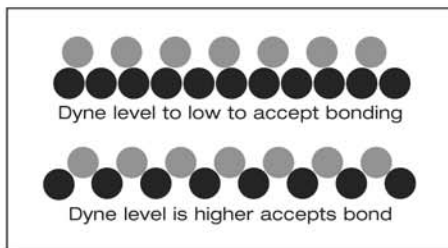
Aqueous coatings have provided the printing industry with the ability to lightly protect a printed sheet and for two-sided printing operations with little or no waiting to imprint the second side. The addition of aqueous units to litho presses has been a great advantage to the printing production process. Though, the addition did create issues for some of the finishing processes in printing and bindery, some issues related to foil stamping, writing, imprinting have greatly affected the laminating process. The first aqueous products were not very friendly to foil stamping, writing or laminating. In many cases a firm adherence (or bond) to the material coated with these earlier aqueous finishes proved to be disastrous. Foils would flake off, you could not write on it (with a pencil or pen) and the lamination material would de-laminate (even peel right off). Many of those types of aqueous coatings are still used today creating issues when your printed project requires other finishes.

What are these issues regarding? Dyne levels, free energy (inert), oxidized (reactive chemical sites forming carbonyl and hydroxyl groups) come to mind. Not to get into physics too much—let us keep it in layman terms. The substrate, to accept a good adhesion to its surface requires the surface tension (dynes level) to be higher than the surface energy of the adhesive on the plastic laminate. The higher the dyne level the more area (space between molecules) to bind with the adhesive. If the aqueous coating is "filling-in" all the spots that allow bonding and it is at a lower dyne level than the adhesive it cannot stick to the aqueous at all (typical

dyne levels for aqueous varnishes/coating are between 30-38). This raises another issue. If your aqueous primer does not bind well with your ink, (i.e. oil base, metallic, etc.) then the laminate will stick to your aqueous primer. At this point a separation will occur not the laminate. Ouch! This is again due to physics and the dyne level of the ink to the aqueous primer.

Many of the manufacturers of aqueous coatings realized that these finishing issues needed to be addressed. They created versions of aqueous that are designed to accept additional processes (after its application to your printed sheet). Some are designed to be write-able and others accept foil stamping and laminating. Be careful with write-able—it may not accept adhesive applications. Some manufacturers call their finishing aqueous "Aqueous Primer."

Contact your supplier for the best bonding aqueous primer for laminating application.



To Our Valued Customers

You may already be aware that paper suppliers and laminating film suppliers have notified their customers of a price increase—increases in manufacturing and transportation costs of raw material and finished goods make this increase necessary.

Laminating films are composed of petroleum based products—so increased petroleum prices mean increased raw material costs.

Our laminating film suppliers have informed us that film prices will be increasing. Effective as of June 1, 2004 our costs will increase by 7% – 9%. The amount of increase will be based on the type and thickness of the film.

Boss Laminating is committed to offering our customers the best turn around time, service and the best price. Exceptional quality and outstanding customer service are two vital areas that Boss values very highly.

Due to the upcoming increase in film prices Boss is announcing the following rate change. All orders placed after June 1, 2004 will include a price increase of 5% – 7%, to cover the cost increase from our vendors.

Estimates over 30 days will need to be re-quoted. Boss will make every effort to satisfy both our customers requirements and related project cost issues.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact one of our representatives.

Boss appreciates your business and will continue to build upon our successful relationship.

Sincerely,
Grant Ford

General Manager of Boss Laminating, Inc.

Visit our Website @ www.bosslaminating.com

Paper and Plastic Stick Together?

Wondering what issues are involved in laminating? Wonder no more! PIASC (Printing Industries Association, Inc. of Southern California) will be sponsoring a special class on laminating called "Paper and Plastic Stick Together?" Grant Ford, GM of Boss Laminating will be the speaker along with a laminating film manufacturer representative. The Class is scheduled for Wednesday, July 14th, from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Some topics are Coatings and Lamination, more plastic or more paper and special applications.

Yes, you guessed it! Grant will be providing a barbecue lunch for all attending. For more information and registration contact: PIASC—Monica Vargas 323-724-2327 or email at: monica@piasc.org

Open House at Boss Laminating - BBQ!

Boss Laminating has monthly barbecues, if you haven't been invited—just ask us about them. The barbecue lunch includes a tour of Boss Laminating's plant. What is special about these monthly barbecues is that Grant Ford (Boss's General Manager), an award winning barbecue chef with over 80 awards, personally prepares the main course. His barbecue team is called BBQ'n Fools—but when it comes to BBQ Grant is not fool'n around. Those of you who are interested in a tour of the Boss Laminating plant and in some astonishing food, email Boss Laminating at mail@bosslaminating.com



Lang Trailer Smoker-BBQ'n Fools (left: Kurt Weidmann, right: Grant Ford)

Current Specials

1st quarter pricing on these sizes and materials while they last!

- 1.3 mil OPP Clear 19.5"
- 1.7 mil OPP Clear 18.75"
- 3 mil OPP Clear 18"
- 3 mil OPP Clear 12"
- 3 mil PET Clear 15.75"
- 5 mil PET Clear 20"
- 10 mil PET Clear 7"

Service Highlights

- Call for "Quick Quote"
- Schedule large runs for quick turn-around
- Online quote requests at www.bosslaminating.com
- Auto-counting & shrink wrapping