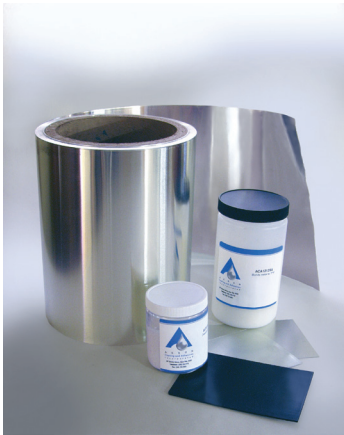


Adhesive Selection



When choosing an adhesive, first consider how the adhesive will function in your application. Will you require a permanent, structural bond, or a more temporary kind of adhesive? Second, consider how the adhesive will be applied in the manufacturing process. Will your application require pressure sensitive adhesive, hot melt extrusion, or one of the many other methods of applying adhesives?

After answering these questions, test protocols can be developed to select an adhesive with physical properties that meet your requirements. ASTM International (<http://www.astm.org/Standards/adhesive-standards.html>) has created industry standards for measuring almost all adhesive physical properties.

Important wet physical properties are:

- Viscosity
- Percent solids
- pH (if waterborne)
- Volatile Organic Compounds (if solvent based)

Important dry adhesive properties are:

- Adhesive Thickness
- Peel Adhesion
- Shear
- Temperature
- Chemical resistance and aging

This test protocol will help you select the best adhesive, serve as a guide for incoming quality control protocols and maintain maximum productivity.