



# Intact Demounting of Flexographic Plates

Flexographic printers face change and challenges on a daily basis. Plates that can be removed in one piece save the time and expense of remaking them, while tape removal can also keep workers from performing other tasks.

Your workplace expectations are constantly increasing: shorter print runs, faster turnaround requirements and increased product differentiation are driving change in printing today. Printers are constantly balancing customer print quality expectations with high labor turnover rates and cost constraints. Process optimization is essential in order to remain competitive and drive your business forward.

When a press run is finished, the print plate and tape need to be removed, or demounted, so the cylinder or sleeve can be used for the next job. High adhesion and aggressive plate removal can cause rips, kinks or tears, rendering the plate unusable for future jobs. Tape removal can also be a burden depending on the size of your job and the strength of the tape. Damaged plates and high adhesion forces are not only costly to the operation, they also increase the time getting product to shelf because the plate must be reimaged before running again.

This is where science and innovation can help improve the printing craft. The flexo community is a group of passionate, dedicated workers who proudly identify with their trade. 3M is honored to partner with such a highly skilled group of people.

Through this partnership, 3M has listened to customer challenges and developed innovative solutions. 3M™ Cushion-Mount™ L-series and Pro-series mounting

tapes feature specially formulated adhesives. Both are optimized for strong hold to prevent edge lift, yet flexographic plates are up to 78% easier to remove<sup>1</sup> while the Pro-series tapes also reduce the required tape removal force up to 54%<sup>2</sup>. These innovations help protect your most valuable asset – your operators. They can also reduce costs incurred by plate damage, while clean removal reduces the time spent removing adhesive residue from the plate<sup>3</sup>.

Our flexographic plate mounting tapes help reduce plate waste, save time and make your operations:

- **Optimal:** Easy plate demounting minimizes damage for longer plate life and lower replacement costs
- **Consistent:** Repeated use of the same plates promotes consistent print results
- **Productive:** Reducing the time required for demounting means workers can focus on other activities

In addition to our long experience creating tapes to meet specific demands, 3M has application engineers with flexo experience in locations around the world. Our team is excited to partner with your team to bring science and craft together to solve printing challenges, increase productivity and deliver high-quality print results on time, every time.

1. Compared to 3M™ Cushion-Mount™ Plus H-Series Plate Mounting Tapes

2. Compared to 3M™ Cushion-Mount™ Plus H-Series, E-Series, & L-Series Plate Mounting Tapes

3. For an optimal result, both plate backing and the sleeve surface must be cleaned prior to mounting. To learn more about 3M plate cleaning recommendations, please refer to the videos below:

Plate cleaning prior to mounting

Flexographic print plate washer and proper storage.

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#### Important notice:

The values presented above have been determined by standard test methods and are average values not to be used for specification purposes. Our recommendations on the use of our products are based on tests believed to be reliable but we would ask that you conduct your own tests to determine their suitability for your applications. Please take all safety and occupational health and safety regulations into account when using this product. All questions of liability relating to this product are governed by the terms of sale subject, where applicable, to the prevailing law.



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