


Removal of 3MTM ScotchliteTM Diamond GradeTM Sheeting From Emergency Services Vehicles

This bulletin outlines a method for the removal of Diamond Grade reflective sheeting panels from (emergency services) vehicles.

Equipment and Materials Required

- Heat Gun with variable temperature control.
- 3M Gold Applicator or similar
- Solvent e.g. Autosmart "PREPTONE", 3M Industrial Cleaner (Citrus based) or similar

 **Caution:** Manufacturers' guidelines should be followed closely when working with solvent products.

Removal of Diamond Grade Sheeting

Using gentle heat from the heat gun, warm the area of the sheeting to be removed, avoiding use of excessive heat as this can cause the sheeting to melt. Heat small areas at a time, e.g. 50cm by 50cm and then gently peel the DG away from the bodywork. Use of the applicator behind the sheeting can help removal, taking care where possible to avoid causing delamination of the sheeting, as small pieces left on the bodywork can be more difficult to remove.

Repeat this process around the vehicle until all the sheeting panels have been removed.

Any small pieces of sheeting can be removed by using a non-abrasive grinding wheel, e.g. 3M ScotchbriteTM Molding Adhesive and Stripe Removal Disc.

Adhesive Removal

After removal of the sheeting it is likely that a layer of adhesive will remain on the bodywork. In order to remove this layer a solvent needs to be used to soften the adhesive to aid removal.

The procedure suggested is as follows:-


Spray a panel with solvent so that the adhesive is saturated and allow 5-10 * minutes for the adhesive to absorb the solvent. Repeat this step as necessary until the solvent has thoroughly penetrated the adhesive. Using the plastic applicator, remove the softened adhesive and discard carefully.

The process of solvent application and adhesive removal should be repeated until the adhesive is completely removed.

* The time allowed for the adhesive to be absorbed may vary depending on ambient conditions, but do not allow the adhesive to become dry as this makes the removal process more difficult.

Final Finish

Rinse the vehicle body work with clean water, dry and apply a finishing compound to restore the paint work to the required finish.

 **IMPORTANT: FOLLOW MANUFACTURERS' USE AND SAFETY GUIDELINES AS DIRECTED WHEN HANDLING AND WORKING WITH SOLVENTS**

Health & Safety

Refer to the package label and the Material Safety Data Sheet for health, safety, and handling information on the products referenced in this bulletin. For 3M products, if necessary, you may contact our Toxicology/Product Responsibility Department on 01344 858000.

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Commercial Graphics Department
3M United Kingdom PLC
3M Centre, Cain Road, Bracknell
Berkshire, RG12 8HT
Tel: 01344 857850
Fax: 01344 857939
e-mail: commgraphics.uk@mmm.com
www.3m.com/uk/graphicsolutions
www.scotchprint.com/uk

Sales Assistance

Commercial Graphics Group
3M United Kingdom PLC
3M House, 28 Great Jackson Street
Manchester, M15 4PA
Tel: (0161) 237 6394
Free Fax: (0800) 378127
e-mail: commgraphics.uk@mmm.com
www.3m.com/uk/graphicsolutions
www.scotchprint.com/uk

3M United Kingdom PLC, Commercial Graphics Group
3M House 28 Great Jackson Street Manchester M15 4PA
Tel: (0161) 237 6394 Free Fax: (0800) 378127
e-mail: commgraphics.uk@mmm.com
www.3m.com/uk/graphicsolutions
www.scotchprint.com/uk

3M Ireland, 3M House, Adelphi Centre,
Upper Georges Street, Dun Laoghaire, Co. Dublin, Ireland
Tel: 01 280 3555, Fax: 01 280 3509
e-mail: commgraphics.uk@mmm.com
www.3m.com/uk/graphicsolutions
www.scotchprint.com/uk