

Sustainability in Flexographic Printing

Flexographic printing has been vital since the 19th century. As technology evolves, sustainable practices are crucial to reduce environmental impact and ensure the industry's future.

At 3M, we are committed to sustainability:

- Develop more sustainable products and processes.
- Help your business meet its sustainability targets.

Best practices:

- Reduce waste at every stage: mounting, on-press, and demounting.
- Reuse materials whenever possible.
- Recycle to minimize environmental impact.




Trust 3M for:

- The quality materials and expert support that you need.




Minimize Your Operation's Environmental Impact and Achieve Your Sustainability Targets



Reduce

	 Problem	 Solution	 3M Support
Tape Waste	Remounts due to on-press printing defects.	Follow best practices to minimize tape waste and solvent use.	Use L-Series Tape to reduce plate damage.
Press Downtime Waste	Ink and film waste from printing defects and excessive plate cleaning.	Optimize tape for best print quality.	Implement best practices for surface preparation and tape application.
Plate Damage	Torn plates from high adhesion and incorrect tape selection.	Optimize tape selection to reduce plate damage and solvent use.	Use specially formulated adhesives for easy plate removal.
CO₂ Emissions	High CO ₂ emissions from solvent-based adhesive coating processes affecting sustainability targets.	Use solvent-free adhesive products to reduce environmental impact.	3M™ Cushion-Mount™ Tapes use solvent-free adhesive coating.
Packaging Waste	Excessive packaging waste.	Utilize products with efficient packaging to minimize waste.	3M moved from 25-yard to 36-yard rolls, reducing waste by 30%.

Reuse

	 Best Practices	 3M Support
Flexographic Tape	Optimize tape and follow best practices to help achieve waste reduction.	Provide guidance on tape optimization and best practices.

Recycle

	 Best Practices	 3M Support
Innovative Adhesive Technologies	Repair, recycle, and reuse with innovative adhesives.	Develop advanced adhesive technologies to support recycling.

Improve Sustainability With 3M

When you:

- Own your process
- Train your staff
- Optimize your tape selection
- Utilize 3M for comprehensive technical support

Together, with 3M's science and your craft, we can evolve toward a more sustainable future.

Talk to your 3M representative to learn more, or visit our website at [3M.com/flexo](https://www.3m.com/flexo).

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