<div align="center">**PRODUCT-BULLETIN**</div>

GRAFITACK SIGN MAKING FILMS
TRANSLUCENT SERIES

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Description

Grafitack Translucent series is a soft, polymeric calendered translucent PVC film, which is mainly used in the illuminated sign making industry, on light boxes, on flexible sign faces and on backlit banners. The film is provided with a pressure-sensitive permanent acrylic adhesive. This adhesive is protected by a high-quality silicone paper.

Characteristics

- Finish : translucent.
- Excellent light transmission.
- Beautiful effects with background lighting.
- Very good resistance against UV-rays and weather influences, resulting in a high outdoor life expectancy.
- With an adjusted knife pressure, the film can be cut smoothly on all standard cutting plotters.
- High adhesive strength.
- Simple cleaning.
- Good chemical resistance.
- Compatible with the most common flexible sign faces and backlit banners.

Application

The Grafitack Translucent series has been developed especially for the illuminated sign industry, and can be used for numerous applications, that is on light boxes as well as on most flexible sign faces and backlit banners.

➔ *Other applications in close consultation with Grafityp !*

Limitations

The Grafitack Translucent series is meant to be used on even and flexible surfaces. The films are not suited for surfaces with rivets and/or deep indents.

Limitations are mentioned for each product group separately in the respective technical data sheets, of which you can find the most recent version on the Grafityp website (www.grafityp.com).

Warranty

Please consult the General Grafitack & Graficast Warranty Certificate for detailed warranty declarations of the Grafitack sign making films. The most recent version of this warranty certificate will be available on the Grafityp website (www.grafityp.com).

Mounting Instructions

Grafityp provide trainings in various levels, enabling the customer to mount these films in a professional and skilled way. A detailed manual on the application of Grafitack films can be found on the Grafityp website (www.grafityp.com).

- In order to achieve an optimal result, we advise you to clean the surface thoroughly with isopropanol.
- In case you use the films on flexible sign faces or backlit banners, we advise you to lay the sign face or banner perfectly flat on an even and stable surface, and to apply the self adhesive film on the sign face or banner in this way. Only after the film has reached its optimal adhesive strength on the flexible sign face or backlit banner can the end product be stretched. The film needs at least 24 hours (up to a couple of days, depending on the climatic conditions) to reach its optimal adhesion.

- Scratches can occur on the material during the application process of the Grafitack Translucent films. You can avoid scratches during the application of the material by using a felt squeegee and/or by wearing gloves.
- Larger pieces of vinyl always need to be applied by well-trained professionals. In case the films are applied on glass or plexi, it is possible to make the surface wet, using soapy water. Please note that it will take considerably longer for the film to reach its optimal adhesive strength on the surface in this case.

Before mounting

A brief preceding study will save you a lot of time and will guarantee a better end result. Always check the following points :

- What kind of surface do you want to apply the film onto, and is this surface suited for self adhesive films ?
- This film is ideal for sign making on light boxes and flexible sign faces.
- Check your plotter's knife pressure before cutting the complete job.
- The light transmission of this film also allows for beautiful realizations on shop windows (restaurants, pubs) that are illuminated from the inside at night.
- Keep in mind that overlapping parts get a different colour.

Make sure all necessary equipment and materials are ready at hand before starting the job.
Pay attention to your own safety and health. Take into account all safety prescriptions of the suppliers when using electric equipment and products that are necessary to complete the job successfully.

The preparation

Tip : preferably always use Grafityp films of the same kind in one job. Don't combine cast films with e.g. calendered or non-pvc films, one kind on top of the other. They have different characteristics, which may have a negative effect on the end result.

Tip : check whether certain materials are suited for wrapping. This can be done very easily. Clean the surface thoroughly and do the drop test. If you pour water on the surface, it shouldn't form drops. If drops appear on the surface, the material in not suited for wrapping with any material. Shop window glass can sometimes also have a water-repellent treatment, which reduces the adhesive strength of the glue.

Cleaning :
- It goes without saying that all surfaces need to be cleaned and degreased thoroughly.
- When everything is completely clean, the complete surface needs to be cleaned once again with isopropanol. Isopropanol removes all detergents that stayed behind on the surface.
- If you need to apply the film on sawn panels, it is of utmost importance that the sawn edges of these panels are cleaned thoroughly. Use compressed air to do so. After all, a lot of dust creeps iinto these edges, which is electrostatically attracted by the vinyl and thus gets in between the vinyl and the panel.

Tip : Keep your material, with the application film on top of it, flat and on top of each other, making sure it is deformed as little as possible. If you need to enroll the material, make sure it is enrolled with the application film at the outside.

The application

Tip : make sure the workshop is dust-free, that the necessary ambient temperature has been reached, and that the job can not be complicated by direct sunlight or by a heat source. Also make sure the floor is completely clean, as the vinyl gets statically loaded during the application process, thus attracting dust very easily.

The vinyls are always applied dry.

Run a couple of tests first. They can save you a lot of work. Apply a test strip and check whether it sticks well enough.

The tools :
- Squeegees
- Cutting knife
- Heat gun
- Extension cord
- Sufficient light
- Roll of tape
- Electric current
- Meter, felt-tip, pencil,...

The preparation :
- Place the vinyl (with its backing paper) on the surface. Use paper tape or a pencil crayon to do so.
- Always avoid cutting in the surface. This can cause scratches.
- Apply some reference points where vinyl and surface meet, so you can easily place the vinyl at its exact position again.

Tip : In case of extremely big signs, it is often easier to cut your design in between lines or characters after you have defined their exact position.

The application of the vinyl :
- Remove the backing paper from the film.
- Position the film without folds against the reference points you applied earlier.
- A plastic squeegee is used for rubbing the film if it comes with a mounting film.
- Rub the vinyl smoothly by means of the squeegee. Make sure that the air between the object and the vinyl can always escape.
- Use a soft squeegee to avoid scratching the plexi when rubbing the edge of the mounting film.
- A detailed manual for the application of films, provided with an application films, can be found on www.grafityp.com (Download – Manuals).

Tip : never lay a felt squeegee on the floor. Sand will creep into it and you will make scratches on the film the next time you use it.

The finishing

The exact removal of the mounting film determines the quality of the end result to a large extent.

- Allow the film to adhere to its surface for as long as possible before removing the mounting film.
- Remove the mounting film under an angle of 180°. In this way, the pulling strength on the vinyl will be a lot less, and less air bubbles will be sucked under the vinyl.
- Small air bubbles will disappear automatically after a certain period of time. Larger air bubbles on even surfaces need to be puntured to allow the air to escape.

Cleaning and maintenance

After application, the surface can immediately be cleaned with a dust cloth or with a damp cloth.

Once the film has reached its optimal adhesive strength, the surface can be cleaned under normal conditions. Please take the following guidelines into consideration :

- Don't use any scouring cleaning agents.
- Don't use any cleaning agents that contain strong solvents or alcohol.
- Use cleaning agents with a pH value between 3 and 11.

Removal

The Grafitack Translucent series has been developed especially not to leave behind any glue residues when removing it. If you wish to remove the vinyl, we advise you to heat it with a heat gun. Pull off the film under an angle of +90°. If any glue stays behind on the surface, you can remove it with isopropanol.

Inferior plexi will discolour over time. This means that if the film is removed after a few years, there will be a difference in background colour.

Tip : if any glue residues stay behind, it is often because the vinyl is too warm and the adhesive is too cold. Just wait for a moment until the heat has reached the area between the adhesive layer and the paintwork, and things will become a lot easier. You will find the right balance between heating and removing the vinyl after some practice.

If the film needs to be removed from an underlying film (e.g. in case of overlapping applications), it is possible that the underlying film gets damaged.

If applied on glass or plexi, all possible glue residues can easily be removed. You just have to moisten the glue residues with soap water. Leave this to soak in for a couple of minutes, and then chip it off by means of a steel scraper (also used for removing paint stains).

Product range

Grafitack Translucent films are available in the following colours :

Reference	Colour	Reference	Colour
TL1149	White	TL1710	Light blue
TL1128	Yellow	TL1130	Blue
TL1773	Canary yellow	TL1755	Cornflower blue
TL1750	Egg yellow	TL1781	Medium blue (Pepsi)
TL1774	Orange yellow	TL1713	Night blue
TL1762	Orange	TL1712	Dark blue
TL1778	Light red	TL1770	Fuchsia
TL1780	Medium red (Pepsi)	TL1720	Purple
TL1131	Red	TL1207	Light brown
TL1779	Cardinal red	TL1771	Burgundy
TL1760	Bright green	TL1772	Dark brown
TL1782	Apple green	TL1151	Grey
TL1211	Sea green	TL1775	Blue grey
TL1129	Green	TL1800	Black block out
TL1777	Fir green	TL1900	Gold
TL1246	Aqua green	TL1901	Silver
TL1776	Laguna		

Product Characteristics

A detailed overview of the product characteristics can be found on the respective technical data sheets, of which you can always find the most recent version on the Grafityp website (www.grafityp.com).

Storage Instructions

All Grafitack materials always need to be stored in their original packing and with the original protection flanges (and preferably stored vertically).
In order to avoid any loss of quality, the Grafitack materials should also be stored in suitable conditions, that is at a temperature between 10 and 20°C and a relative humidity of 50 %.
Under these conditions the Grafitack materials can be stored up to two years.

Remarks

- In order to achieve an optimal result, we advise you to clean the surface with isopropanol and/or use a low-tack application tape !
- As the colour of the film can differ slightly for each production run, we advise you not to use films with different batch numbers in one single and critical job. The number to be taken into consideration for this purpose consists of the first 5 number of the 7-digit batch number.

Important

The information mentioned in this product bulletin is based upon tests that were executed by Grafityp and that we consider to be reliable. The information always represents an average, a minimum or a maximum value, and should be considered as such. It is only given for your information, and does not give any guarantee. Grafityp cannot be held responsible for any damage, either direct or indirect, resulting from the use of the film. It is up to the user to decide whether or not the product is suited for his particular application.

Technical Service

If you have any technical questions with regard to the Grafitacl films you can always contact our technical department :

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