

# **ALPHA**

**SOLUTIONS FOR INDUSTRY**

## **THIXOFIX Thixotropic Contact Adhesive**

### **Description**

Alpha Thixofix Contact Adhesive has been developed for the specific aim of making simple the bonding of laminated plastics to wood and other substrates, whilst maintaining the well proven efficiency of ordinary contact adhesives.

### **EASE OF USE**

The following application characteristics of Thixofix make this product simple to use.

- \* Thixofix is thixotropic. It is a gel, similar to non-drip paint, so it spreads like butter. It does not spill and cuts out the mess normally associated with ordinary contact adhesives.
- \* When bonding normal sized sheets of laminated plastics, the unique "slideability" of Thixofix allows the accurate positioning of materials. For large sheets of laminate use Trade Formula Thixofix.

### **Application**

Alpha Thixofix was primarily manufactured for bonding laminated plastics to wood, hardboard, chipboard, etc.

Thixofix is a very versatile adhesive and will bond laminated plastics, rigid PVC, cork, rubber, leather, fabrics, wood, painted and unpainted metal, hardboard, plaster, plasterboard, chipboard, etc.

### **Technical Data**

Coverage per litre: 2.5 - 3 sq metres. Coverage reduces on absorbent surfaces.

Minimum Open Joint Time: 10-15 minutes depending on temperature and absorbency of materials. Do not bond until both surfaces are "touch dry".

Cleaner: T 559

Heat Resistance 70°C

Flash Point - 5°C

### **Method of use**

Surfaces to be bonded must be clean, dry and free from dust, oil or grease. Do not stir the adhesive. The materials to be bonded should be dry and free from dust, grit, oil and grease.

On absorbent surfaces, such as plywood, hardboard and plasterboard, a primer coat of Thixofix may be necessary.

Firstly, hold the Alpha spreader UPRIGHT and spread a uniform coat of adhesive over BOTH surfaces to be bonded. This will help to ensure the correct amount of adhesive is applied. A useful tip when using the spreader is to ensure that the ridges of adhesive run vertically on one surface and horizontally on the other. Take special care that all edges are properly coated with adhesive.

Secondly, allow the Thixofix to become "touch dry", (normally this will be 10-15 minutes, although this can be longer in cold, damp conditions), but no longer than 25 minutes.

Another useful tip; the easiest way to establish whether the adhesive is in the correct condition for bonding, is by touching the adhesive surface lightly with the knuckles. Check different parts of the coated surfaces, particularly the area last coated. Check that the adhesive DOES NOT transfer to the skin, bonding can take place. Remember, bonding must take place within 25 minutes of the two surfaces being coated.

## **BONDING**

Bring the materials VERY GENTLY together. It is always advisable to position the materials in exactly the desired position. However, one of the big advantages of Thixofix is that it has unique "slideability" and does allow you to make small adjustments to normal sized sheets of laminate, provided that initially both surfaces are "touch dry" and brought together gently. Then press the two surfaces together with FIRM, even pressure, ensuring that no area is missed.

When bonding impervious surfaces together, e.g. rigid plastic, metal, etc., a better bond will be obtained if the two surfaces are thoroughly abraded by using, for example, a rough emery cloth or wire brush. Both surfaces should then be cleaned before applying the adhesive.

For edging strips, the same bonding instructions apply, but in the case of very porous wood simply use one coat of Thixofix as a primer. Wait until "touch dry" and then apply the main coat of Thixofix and follow normal instructions.

Thixofix will bond strongly, forming a powerful, permanent bond.

## **PAINTED SURFACES**

Thixofix can be successfully used on painted surfaces, but since these can vary greatly the following test is recommended.

Spread Thixofix onto an unimportant small portion of the painted surface, allow drying for 30 minutes and check to see that the paint has not suffered or shown any signs of peeling.

## **Health & Safety**

See separate health and safety data sheet.

### **Storage and Shelf Life**

Stored in well sealed containers, Thixofix will keep satisfactorily for up to 18 months, from date of manufacture. Thixofix must be protected from frost and stored between 5 – 25°C.

### **Important Notice**

Whilst all reasonable care is taken in the compilation of this data sheet, it is the customer's responsibility to determine the suitability of the product for the desired application.

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