STA-SHARP S3S

EASY TO CUT EASY TO ADHERE EASY TO PEEL

SOLVENT ADHERABLE KNIFECUT STENCIL FILM

STA-SHARP S3S is a green colored solvent adhering knifecut stencil film on 300- gauge polyester backing. It is a traditional solvent based coating that Ulano customers used to be very familiar with.

This film offers a very user-friendly, very fast stencil making option, with no special exposing equipment required. The recommended adhering liquid for this film is STA-SHARP Adhering Liquid. Additionally, the film is very solvent-friendly and there are commercially available lacquer thinners that would work as adhering liquid for this film as well.

INSTRUCTIONS

CUTTING AND PEELING

Tape a sheet of STA-SHARP S3S and the artwork to the work surface in all four corners.

Protect the emulsion surface against perspiration with a piece of plastic. Cut on a hard surface, with only the artwork between the masking film and the work surface. A light table makes a particularly good cutting surface, combining good visibility with a hard, glass work surface.

Hold the cutting blade as nearly perpendicular to the film surface as possible in order to make straight cuts with well-formed, 90-degree emulsion "shoulders." Use only a sharp cutting blade. A dull blade will tear the film causing poor edge definition. Angled cuts cause poor edge definition as well.

Do not bear down when cutting. The emulsion is less than 2/1000 inches (50 microns) in thickness. Excess pressure causes poor edge definition. Cut completely through the emulsion but not into the support; otherwise, "burnt" edges may occur. Overcuts close during adhering.

For peeling, use a dull blade, a pair of tweezers, or adhesive tape.

PREPARATIONS FOR ADHERING

Wipe the surface of the stencil clean using dry, lint-free material before adhering. Place a firm flat buildup board (about two inches smaller than the inside dimensions of the frame) on the work surface. Under high humidity conditions, place a sheet of newsprint on the board to prevent the smooth polyester backing sheet from sticking to the buildup board. Place the cut and peeled stencil, emulsion side up, on top of the sheet of newsprint on the buildup board. Place the dry, degreased screen over the stencil. Warped screen frames prevent perfect mesh-emulsion contact, so that adhesion will be poor.

Have ready two clean, absorbent rags and **STA-SHARP Adhering Liquid.**

ADHERING STA-SHARP S3S

Fold the two clean rags into pads. Wet one with **STA-SHARP Adhering Liquid** adhering liquid. In a smooth, continuous motion, slowly wet the squeegee side of the mesh, gently pushing the adhering liquid into it. As the film wets, its green color darkens. Follow the wet pad immediately with the dry pad, working in tandem. Lighter-color spots indicate poor wetting and poor adhesion. Blot small, un-adhered details lightly with the adherent-saturated rag. For larger, un-adhered areas, move the rag with light pressure from open mesh areas toward the stencil edges to help keep stencil edges well defined. If possible, set up a fan to blow cold air over the work surface to speed the drying time.

DRYING THE STENCIL AND PEELING OFF THE PLASTIC BACKING SHEET

Dry the stencil under a fan from the squeegee side. Wait for adhering liquid to evaporate. In 15 min, the backing sheet can be peeled off. If support is peeling with resistance, longer drying time is needed.

INK REMOVAL

Remove aqueous inks with water.

Degrease with **Screen Degreaser Liquid No. 3** to remove ink and solvent residues that might impair the action of the stencil remover.

STENCIL REMOVAL

To remove the stencil, wet the printing (film) side of the mesh with **STA-SHARP Adhering Liquid**. Place the film side of the frame down over several sheets of newspaper. Saturate the inside of the screen with **STA-SHARP Adhering Liquid**. After a few minutes, lift the screen and pull away the first sheet of newspaper. Most of the dissolved film will adhere to it. Change the bottom sheet of newspaper several times.

Wash the inside of the screen with clean rags and additional **STA-SHARP Adhering Liquid**. If the film has stained the fabric, apply **KIWO Haze Remover HV** or diluted (1:1) commercial bleach to both sides of the screen fabric, then let it dry— if possible, overnight. Re-wet the screen with **STA-SHARP Adhering Liquid**. Rinse the screen gently to avoid splash-back, then increase the water pressure until the mesh is clean.

PRODUCT DATA

Storage: 18 months (under recommended conditions with temperatures not exceeding 80ºF (27ºC) and not exceeding 70% RH)

FORMATS

STA-SHARP S3S is available in rolls of 40”x300”.

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