



GerberColor™ Spot (GCS) Series Foil

| | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| DESCRIPTION | 1 |
| PERFORMANCE LIFE | 1 |
| SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE..... | 3 |
| PRINTING | 3 |
| PROTECTING GRAPHICS..... | 4 |
| APPLICATION TECHNIQUES..... | 4 |
| MAINTENANCE..... | 4 |
| PHYSICAL PROPERTIES | 5 |
| CHEMICAL RESISTANCE | 5 |
| RELATED LITERATURE | 5 |
| CONTACT INFORMATION | 6 |

DESCRIPTION

GerberColor Spot (GCS) Series Foils are durable, dimensionally stable, resin-based, pigmented foils designed for use with the GERBER EDGE®, GERBER EDGE 2®, and GERBER EDGE FX™ thermal transfer printing systems, in conjunction with EDGE READY™ materials. GCS Foils produce printed graphics capable of withstanding severe weather and handling conditions in both commercial and industrial applications.

PERFORMANCE LIFE

When printed on EDGE READY materials and applied vertically, GCS Foils will have the following expected performance life:

| Spot Color | Life in years |
|--------------------|---------------|
| GCS-10 White | 4 |
| GCS-12 Black | 5 |
| GCS-13 Tomato Red | 4 |
| GCS-14 Orange | 3 |
| GCS-15 Yellow | 3 |
| GCS-19 Brown | 4 |
| GCS-24 Terra Cotta | 3 |
| GCS-31 Grey | 5 |

| Spot Color | Life in years |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| GCS-37 Cobalt Blue | 4 |
| GCS-38 Purple | 3 |
| GCS-39 Tan | 3 |
| GCS-46 Kelly Green | 3 |
| GCS-47 Intense Blue | 4 |
| GCS-49 Beige | 4 |
| GCS-53 Ruby Red | 4 |
| GCS-56 Dark Green | 3 |
| GCS-57 Olympic Blue | 4 |
| GCS-58 Burgundy | 4 |
| GCS-66 Forest Green | 4 |
| GCS-74 Kumquat | 4 |
| GCS-77 Peacock Blue | 4 |
| GCS-96 Teal | 3 |
| GCS-105 Imitation Gold | 3 |
| GCS-133 Raspberry | 3 |
| GCS-151 Traffic Grey | 4 |
| GCS-155 Lemon Yellow | 3 |
| GCS-176 Aqua | 4 |
| GCS-186 Green | 3 |
| GCS-196 Apple Green | 3 |
| GCS-293 Atomic Red | 3 |
| GCS-406 Electric Green | 3 |
| GCS-493 Fireball Red | 3 |
| GCS-601 Champagne Gold | 3 |
| GCS-603 Brick Red | 3 |
| GCS-616 Lime Green | 3 |

| Spot Color | Life in years |
|--------------------------|---------------|
| GCS-620 Silver | 3 |
| GCS-625 Sunflower Yellow | 4 |
| GCS-627 Navy | 3 |
| GCS-628 Violet Purple | 3 |
| GCS-629 Copper | 3 |
| GCS-631 Gold | 3 |
| GCS-641 Dark Grey | 3 |
| GCS-643 Pink | 2 |
| GCS-663 Intense Red | 3 |
| GCS-668 Light Purple | 4 |
| GCS-681 Light Grey | 3 |
| GCS-687 Royal Reflex | 4 |
| GCS-697 Light Navy | 4 |
| GCS-710 Arctic White | 3 |
| GCS-719 Aircraft White | 3 |
| GCS-720 Aircraft Grey | 3 |

Performance statements are based upon field experience and exposure tests conducted throughout the United States using solid fill prints. Substrate selection, exposure angle, environmental conditions, and maintenance of markings will affect actual performance. Continuous exposure in regions that experience maximum sunny days will result in decreased performance. This product is not recommended for horizontal applications.

SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE

Shelf life of GerberColor Foils is one year. GerberColor Foils, film and printed graphics (with or without premask) should be kept in a clean area free from excessive moisture and direct sunlight. Store foils at 40°F to 90°F (4°C to 32°C) and 40% to 60% humidity. When not in use, cartridges should be kept in their package sleeves.

PRINTING

GCS Foils are compatible with EDGE READY materials. GCS Foils are also compatible in overprint combinations (GerberColor Spectratone™) with the following GerberColor Series: GerberColor Process Pro™ CMYK (GCP), GerberColor Transparent (GCT), and GerberColor Medal (GCM). GCM Foils should not be used as the underlayer in an overprint construction. GCS Foils are not recommended for use with Heat Transfer Paper.

Recommended working environment is as follows:

- Operating temperature: 50°F to 95°F / 10°C to 35°C
- Recommended temperature for assured printing accuracy: 68°F to 78°F / 20°C to 26°C
- Operating humidity: 20% to 90% relative humidity, non-condensing (maximum range; actual range varies by material used)

PROTECTING GRAPHICS

Gerber Technology offers products that are designed to protect vinyl and printed graphics.

Gerber Guard™ manufactured by 3M is a durable, dimensionally stable, glossy vinyl overlamine. This film has a petrochemical-resistant construction and is intended to be used when markings may be exposed to petrochemical spillage and/or severe handling conditions.

Gerber UVGuard™ is a custom-formulated, 1-mil, clear, TEDLAR polyvinyl fluoride (PVF) laminating film designed to further expand the resistance to weathering of printed graphics up to five years.

Gerber UVGuard™ 9 manufactured by 3M is a 2-mil, glossy, clear, mildew-resistant, polyvinyl fluoride laminating film with a petrochemical-resistant adhesive system. It is designed to further expand the resistance to weathering of printed graphics up to nine years. Gerber UVGuard 9 has the highest protection from UV fade.

Gerber StrikeGuard™ is an 8.0-mil, clear, glossy overlamine film designed for a variety of applications. This heavy-duty overlamine film is ideal for the protection of graphics, up to two years, and is especially beneficial where printed graphics experience severe handling and forceful impact. Gerber StrikeGuard is not recommended in applications that require petrochemical protection or where additional UV or vandal resistance is desired.

Abrasion Guard™ SPF (Sign Protection Formula) is a clear, top-coat GerberColor Finishing Series (GCF) Foil designed for use with EDGE® Series thermal transfer printing systems, to protect graphics from moderate contact and exposure to harmful effects of UV rays. It has an expected performance life of five years (when printed by itself). When applied as a protective overprint on other GerberColor Foils, Abrasion Guard SPF will extend the life of the base color by up to 30%.

Matte Clear is a clear matte finish, top coat GerberColor Foil designed for use with EDGE® Series thermal transfer printing systems, to reduce glare and protect graphics from moderate contact or handling. It has an expected performance life of three years.

APPLICATION TECHNIQUES

Gerber standard tack application tape is required for all graphics produced with Gerber Digital Color Printing Systems. Printed graphics should be allowed to cure for 15 minutes prior to the application of transfer tape.

MAINTENANCE

To clean printed graphics, use a mild, non-abrasive soap with a soft cloth or sponge. Avoid using alcohol-based cleansers or soaps containing grit or abrasives. Automated vehicle washing systems that use rotary cleaning brushes should also be avoided.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

| Foil | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Pigment | Resin Based |
| Coating Thickness | 3.5 to 4.1 microns |
| Liner Thickness | 5.7 microns |
| Foil Length - <i>minimum</i> | 45 meters (49.21 yards) |

| Cartridge | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| Cores | Polyethylene |
| End Shell | ABS Plastic |
| End Plugs | ABS Plastic |
| Side Rails | ABS Plastic |
| Cartridge Weight | 1 lb 12 oz |

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE (Printed on Gerber High Performance Series 220)

| Chemical Agent | Exposure Time | Result |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-----------|
| Water | 24 hours | No effect |
| SAE Motor Oil | 24 hours | No effect |
| 50/50 Ethylene Glycol/Water | 24 hours | No effect |
| 10% Hydrochloric acid | 10 minutes | No effect |
| 10% Ammonium Hydroxide | 10 minutes | No effect |
| Mineral Spirits | 10 minutes | No effect |
| Dish Detergent/Water | 24 hours | No effect |

RELATED LITERATURE

Refer to Product Bulletins of relevant foils and materials for product-specific handling, production, and finishing information.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For help with questions concerning Gerber products, please call your distributor or Gerber Customer Service at 1-800-222-7446 or (860) 644-1551. Visit us on the Internet at www.gspinc.com to learn more about our many other foils, materials and equipment.

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