

GLOSSARY OF LAMINATING TERMS

ADHESIVE LAMINATION—The joining of a weft or warp knitted fabric to polyurethane foam either on a fabric-to-foam or fabric-to-fabric basis by means of chemical cements, adhesives or glues.

BONDING—Method of joining two fabrics back-to-back with either adhesives or a so-called foamless foam which after burn-off serves as the welding element.

BOND STRENGTH—Force required to bond a shell fabric affixed back-to-back to a liner fabric via either the adhesives or foamless foam routes.

BURN-OFF—Difference between the starting thickness and finishing thickness of polyurethane foam after it has been subjected to flame lamination.

CELL-COUNT—The number of cells in polyurethane foam per lineal inch.

COLORED FOAM—Polyurethane foam that has been colored with pigments or dyes to minimize see-through and blend with the color of the shell fabric to which it is affixed.

DEBONDING—Separation of a face fabric from its backing or lining fabric in a two-fabric bond.

DELAMINATION—Separation of shell fabric from its polyurethane foam backing.

DI-ISOCYANATE—Chemical material that is the basis of polyurethane foam.

EDGE TRIM WASTE—Edges of foam-bonded fabrics trimmed to assure neat, cleanly cut fabric selvedges.

FLAME LAMINATION—Method of laminating polyurethane foam to a shell fabric by exposing the former to a butane gas flame to create a tacky surface. Knitted fabric is then welded to the foam by nip roller pressure.

Also known as dry or fusion lamination.

FOAM THICKNESS—Measure of the thickness of polyurethane foam.

HOLES—An imperfection in polyurethane foam seam, the point at which two pieces of urethane foam are joined together.

PEEL STRENGTH—Measure of the amount of force necessary to delaminate a piece of knitted or woven fabric from its polyurethane foam backing.

POLYESTER FOAM—Polyurethane foam produced from a polyester base resin. Most knitted fabrics are generally bonded to polyester foams.

POLYETHER FOAM—Polyurethane foam produced from polyether resins.

PRINTED FOAM—Polyurethane foam that has been roller or screen-printed in a foulard, stripe or other colored pattern. Printing the foam makes it attractive in itself and obviates need for a covering or liner fabric.

PUCKERING—Condition of foam-backed knitted fabric resulting when the shell material shrinks.

SILICONE—An organo-silicon oxide polymer applied to foam-backed fabric to lubricate fabric and improve its sewability. Silicones are also applied to foam-backed fabrics to serve as a water repellent agent.

SEE-THROUGH—The degree to which the polyurethane foam backing shows through to the face of knitted fabric.

SHOW-THROUGH—Discoloration of shell or lining fabric produced by the adhesive bonding agent.

STRIATIONS—A cluster of cells in polyurethane foam larger than the average cell size.