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2009 Consumer Packaging Solutions for Barrier Performance Course

Barrier Coatings for Flexible Packaging

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2009 TAPPI PLACE Flexible Packaging and Barrier Short Course – Columbus

Introduction

- **Why solution coat instead of extrusion coating or film lamination?**
 - Capital asset utilization, short runs
 - Apply thinner weights
 - Can formulate with a wide array of materials and achieve performance beyond extrusion resins.
- **Brief overview of types of coatings: adhesives, heat seal, print receptivity, barrier**
 - Solvent, solvent-free and aqueous

The Basics of Barrier Coating

- **Types of barrier**
 - **Oxygen**
 - **Moisture**
 - **Flavor and aroma**
 - **Chemical resistance**
 - **Protection**
 - **Corrosion resistance**
 - **Heat, mar and scratch resistance**

The Basics of Barrier Coating (cont.)

- **Substrates**
 - Paper, film, alu foil
 - Metalized
- **Application: treatment, roll or rod coat, dry**

Barrier Coatings



PVdC (Polyvinylidene Chloride)

- **Purpose: excellent OTR, MVTR, heat sealable, used on film and paper**
- **apply about 1 – 3 g/m² from 50% solids “latex”**
- **Pros: excellent barrier, inexpensive**
- **Cons: often need a primer for adhesion to film, discolors over time, environmental concerns**



EVOH (Ethylene Vinyl Alcohol) and PVOH (Polyvinyl Alcohol)

- **Purpose: oxygen barrier on film and paper**
- **Apply 1 gsm out of very low solids aqueous solution, dry thoroughly**
- **Pros: very good oxygen barrier possible**
- **Cons: may need a primer for film adhesion, humidity sensitive, low solids dispersions difficult to dry, EVOH solutions can be unstable, PVOH is very water soluble, bury within structure to protect from moisture**



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Waxes

(Carnauba, Paraffin, Polyethylene)

- Purpose: moisture barrier, grease resistance, slip modification, scratch and mar resistance
- Apply 1 – 10 g/m² from aqueous dispersion
- Pros: inexpensive, can be renewably sourced (carnauba), broad spectrum of properties available through wax selection
- Cons: poor adhesion, bloom and offset onto machine parts



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EAA (Polyethylene Acrylic Acid)

- **Purpose:** primer for extrusion coating or topcoat on aluminum foil to protect from corrosion and delamination by aggressive consumer products
- **Apply** 0.1 – 1 g/m² to aluminum foil from aqueous dispersion
- **Pros:** high acid contributes barrier beyond extruded grades of EAA, strong adhesion to aluminum foil, good coupling agent for foil/PE extrusion
- **Cons:** Won't hold up to the "worst:" Povidone iodine, tooth paste, liniment



Acrylics (and others)

- **Purpose: topcoat or overprint varnish for all substrates to protect from physical abuse, frictional heat from converting and filling processes. Facilitates release from heat seal jaws.**
- **Apply 0.5 – 3 g/m² from aqueous or solvent based dispersion**
- **Pros: Easy to use, good properties, can be modified for matte or gloss appearance.**
- **Cons: higher performance versions can be expensive**



Other Barrier Coatings

- **SiO_x**
- **AlO_x**
- **Nano Coatings**
- **Mineral-filled polymers**

Review and Quiz



What coating type(s) would you use for...

- **Anti-corrosion on aluminum foil?**
- **Moisture barrier on paper?**
- **As an overprint varnish?**
- **Oxygen barrier on film?**

Thank You

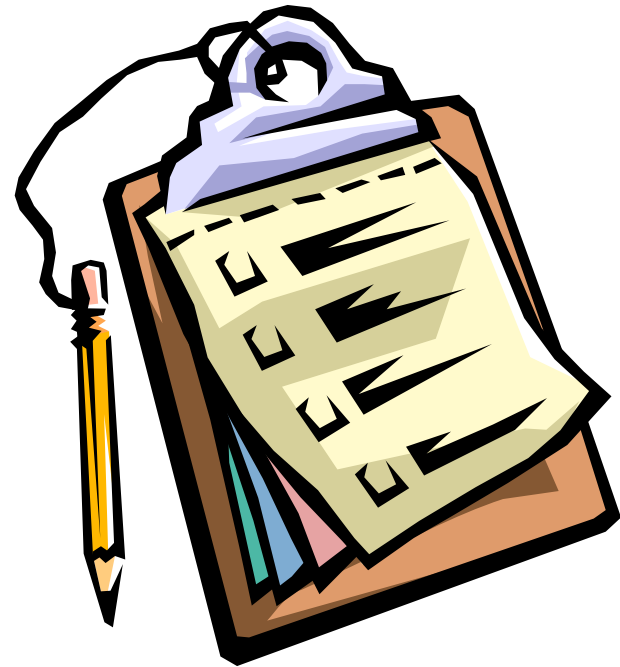
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*Please remember to turn
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