



SURFACE VEHICLE RECOMMENDED PRACTICE

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Abrasion Resistance Testing - Vehicle Exterior Graphics and Pin Striping

RATIONALE

This document covers technology, products, or processes for which technical expertise no longer resides in the owning committee.

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Foreword—This Document has not changed other than to put it into the new SAE Technical Standards Board Format.

This recommended practice has been developed by the SAE Graphics Task Force of the Decorative Tapes and Molding Subcommittee of the SAE Nonmetallic Materials Committee. The Decorative Tape and Molding Subcommittee was formed in 1984. The objectives of the committee are to develop SAE Standards, Recommended Practices, and Information Reports relative to automotive applications of decorative tapes and moldings.

1. **Scope**—This SAE Recommended Practice applies to the abrasion resistance testing of decorative tapes, graphics, and pin striping. It may also have relevance to certain vehicle labels and plastic wood grain film.

The resistance to abrasive damage is judged qualitatively by its effect on the legibility, pattern, and color of the graphic marking.

This recommended practice is intended as a guide toward standard practice but may be subject to frequent change to keep pace with experience and technical advances. This should be kept in mind when considering the use of this recommended practice.

- 1.1 **Purpose**—The purpose of this recommended practice is to establish a uniform practice for testing the abrasion resistance of decorative tapes and moldings.

2. **References**—There are no referenced publications specified herein.

3. **Significance and Use**—The plastic decorative tapes and graphic marking films are subject to the abrasive forces of wiping, cleaning, automatic washes, and various exterior environments.

4. **Apparatus**

- 4.1 **Abrader**—A Teledyne Taber Abraser, Model 174, or its equivalent, complete with vacuum accessory. The abraser should be capable of using "Calibrase" type abrasive wheels under 250, 500, and 1000 g loads.

- 4.2 **Abrasive Wheels**—"Calibrase" brand, grade CS-17 wheels as supplied by Teledyne Taber.

- 4.3 **Resurfacing Pads**—150 grit silicon carbide sand paper or equivalent, Teledyne Taber part number S-11.