

APPLICATION AND REMOVAL HEX'Press Cast Vinyl Film



HX100 Series (HX100WG2 – HX100NTWG2)

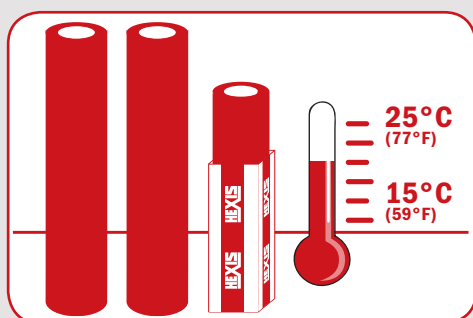
ESSENTIAL ACCESSORIES

- › Adhesive tape Tesa® 7476
- › Masking tape
- › HEXIS'O cleaner
- › CLEAN HEXIS degreaser
- › ND45 strong cleaner
- › « System 1, 2, 3 » cleaning liquids:
 - › 1-Remover
 - › 2-Pre Cleaner
 - › 3-Final Cleaner
- › CARSHAMPOO vehicle shampoo
- › Your preferred squeegee from the catalogue
- › PC50 or PC30 laminate or V750 (flat surfaces)
- › VR 7077 sealing varnish
- › PISTHERMIQ heat gun
- › MALCOV HEXIS tool case
- › DECOLL'VIT cleaner

ALWAYS STORE VINYL ROLLS AT THE RECOMMENDED CONDITIONS

Keep the film away from sources of heat (radiators, exposure to direct sunlight...): the ideal storage temperature is between 15 and 25°C (59 and 77°F). Store in an atmosphere with low humidity (30 to 70% relative humidity).

Keep your films in their original packing. Each opened roll must be stored vertically or suspended from the core in order to avoid pressure marks on the contact surface.



CHARACTERISTICS

The films in the HX100 Series are made of a 50-micron vinyl film are perfectly suitable for complex surfaces and adhere particularly well on glass, steel, aluminium, PVC, melamine. The high technical performances and their conformability allow to use them for full wraps and on curved and riveted surfaces...

The combination of the ultra conformable cast vinyl and the advanced HEX'Press adhesive technology ensure you obtain high quality results while at the same time reducing working time. This technology allows you to easily reposition the vinyl, but does not exclude the necessary step of squeegeeing to ensure optimum adhesion of the film on the substrate.

In low temperature conditions (10 to 15°C/50 to 59°F) applications with the film HX100NTWG2 are easier.

The film HX100WG2, on the other hand, has a "low tack" adhesive, which makes transfer and application really easy ensuring optimum installations (for temperatures over 20°C/68°F).

PREPARING THE TARGET SURFACE

HEXIS films can applied to a wide variety of substrates under the condition that the target surface is clean, dry, smooth, non-porous and without any traces of oil, grease, wax, silicone or other contaminating agents. In order to guard against all eventualities, always assume that the substrate is contaminated and requires cleaning (cf. chapter 3).

Do not forget to carry out a preliminary test in a small area to check that the substrate is compatible.

SUMMARY

1 Recommendations

2 Preliminary examination of the substrate

- 2.1 Tear off test
- 2.2 Outgassing test
- 2.3 Outgassing procedure

3 Cleaning

- 3.1 Clean surface appearance
- 3.2 Soiled surface appearance
- 3.3 Special cases

4 Laminating the HX100

5 Application of the HX100

- 5.1 First steps and application on flat surfaces
- 5.2 Undulated surfaces
- 5.3 Concave surfaces
- 5.4 Convex surfaces
- 5.5 Riveted surfaces
- 5.6 Full wraps

6 Using the heat gun

7 Edge sealing tape or sealing varnish

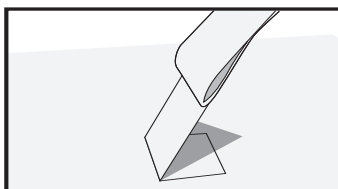
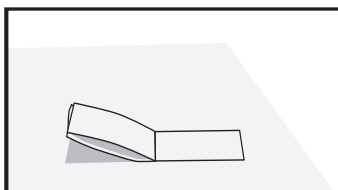
- 7.1 Sealing tape
- 7.2 Sealing varnish

8 Cleaning and maintenance

9 Removing the vinyl

1. RECOMMENDATIONS

- > In The HX100 films adhere particularly well on glass, steel, aluminium, PVC and melamine.
- > The HX100 films have less adhesion on these substrates: low energy surfaces (polyethylene, polypropylene,...) grained or textured surfaces, acrylic paints.
- > In a vehicle wrap avoid applying self-adhesive films on unpainted components such as trim or unpainted bumpers.
- > For any other substrate preliminary tests must be carried out.
- > The HX100 vinyl achieves optimum adhesion after 24 hours of contact.



2. PRELIMINARY TESTING OF THE SUBSTRATE

- > Fresh paint must dry for at least 7 days at 25°C (77°C) in order to outgas completely. A outgassing test must be carried out before the application of a self-adhesive film.
- > Older paint or paint that has become dusty or flaky must be sanded and restored before the application and a rip test should be carried out.

2.1 Tear off test

Using a self-adhesive tape of the type Tesa® 7476 or similar, apply on an area of 2.5cm x 5cm (1in x 2in) plus some extra length to hold with fingers. Fold and tear off with a swift movement at a right angle to the surface. The adhesive tape should not show any traces. Repeat the test at different places.

> HEXIS provides, on request, samples of the 2.5cm x 5cm Tesa® tape.

2.2 Outgassing test

(To check) Use a 15cm x 15cm (6in x 6in) square of adhesive polyester or of the film to be applied. Leave for 24 hours or 2 hours at 65°C (149°F). The appearance of bubbles indicates that the substrate has insufficiently outgassed. Repeat the test after a couple of days or else use the method described below.

2.3 Outgassing by flaming

(polycarbonate, translucent or diffusing metacrylate, expanded PVC...)
This method consists in modifying the surface tension of a substrate by swiping it with the flame of a gas burner. Proceed in even and fast sweeps, both horizontally and vertically over the entire surface of the substrate (use the blue tip of the flame).

⚠ Pass the flame with sweeping movements over the substrate (risk of damage to the substrate if there prologed heating of over one secondeon one spot). The film must be applied immediately as the effect of this type of gentle surface treatment disappears after a few minutes.

⚠ HEXIS is not liable for any bubbles due to outgassing.

HEXIS'O
cleaner and
degreaser



3. CLEANING

3.1 Clean surface appearance

General case:

Before applying the film on the substrate, we recommend you clean it with the gentle HEXIS'O solution. Dry with a clean and lint free cloth.

For a vehicle full wrap:

In the case of a full wrap, it is recommended to wash the vehicle with the help of our vehicle shampoo CARSHAMPOO and then to use the PRE CLEANER (Product 2). Spray onto the surface. Leave to work for a few moments, then wipe off with a clean cloth. Proceed with a final clean with the FINAL CLEANER (Product 3).

CLEAN HEXIS
cleaner and
medium
degreaser



3.2 Dirty surface appearance:

General case:

Clean the substrate using a cloth soaked with CLEAN HEXIS de-greasing solvent and dry it with a cloth before evaporation.

For a vehicle full wrap:

In the case of a full wrap, it is recommended to wash the vehicle with the help of our vehicle shampoo CARSHAMPOO and then to use the PRE CLEANER (Product 2). Spray onto the contaminated surface. Leave to work for a few moments, then wipe off with a clean cloth. Proceed with a final clean with the FINAL CLEANER (Product 3).

3.3 Very dirty surface appearance:

Applies in the case where the substrate has been soiled by resistant pollutants such as stains from diesel, tar or rubber.

General case:

Use a cloth soaked in the powerful ND 45 cleaner. If necessary, precede this step by using a flexible, non-abrasive scraper.

In all cases, then wash the areas concerned with the HEXIS'O solution.

For a vehicle full wrap:

In the case of a full wrap, it is recommended to wash the vehicle with the help of our vehicle shampoo CARSHAMPOO and then to use the ADHESIVE REMOVER (Product 1).

⚠ Use in a ventilated area. Wear protective gloves and goggles.

⚠ Test a small, non-visible area for compatibility of the substrate before treatment. Certain plastic materials may be damaged by the ADHESIVE REMOVER (Product 1).

- › Spray onto the dirty surface and spread using a dry cloth.
- › Leave to work for a few moments, spray the ADHESIVE REMOVER (Product 1) again, then wipe dry with a clean cloth or with a squeegee.
- › When the substrate is clean and dry, clean again with PRE CLEANER (Product 2), then finish with FINAL CLEANER (Product 3), (refer to use below).

3.4 Special case:

Remember to adapt the preparation methods according to the substrate type and condition. Thus painted surfaces must be dry and hard, baked paints must be cooled down. Air-dried paints or car paints need to be dried for minimum 1 month before applying the film. For bare metallic surfaces, clean the substrate with soapy water and then with a cloth soaked in HEXIS'O (general case) or the liquids PRE CLEANER (Product 2), then FINAL CLEANER (product3) in the case of a full wrap..

Refer to the product safety data sheets before use .

⚠ Thoroughly wipe the surface after the cleaning process.

4. LAMINATION OF THE FILM

We recommend you laminate the HX100 film with a laminate of the type PC50, PC30 or V750.

⚠ The combination of the HX100 film with the V750 laminate concerns exclusively applications on flat surfaces.

Ensure that the film is dry before application.

The printed HX100 is touch dry after 10 minutes at the most, however it may be necessary to wait at least for 48 hours before applying, laminating or cutting the film.

- › To ensure the solvents evaporate completely leave the sheets film to dry in racks in a ventilated room.

5. APPLICATION OF THE HX100

ND45
cleaner
and strong
degreaser



ADHESIVE REMOVER
strong cleaner



The HX100 vinyl film must be dry applied, be it laminated or not, because of its HEX'PRESS liner.

The HEX'PRESS technology lets you easily- reposition the vinyl on the substrate.

The final step of squeegeeing to ensure optimum adhesion of the HX100 on the substrate remains essential with this technology.

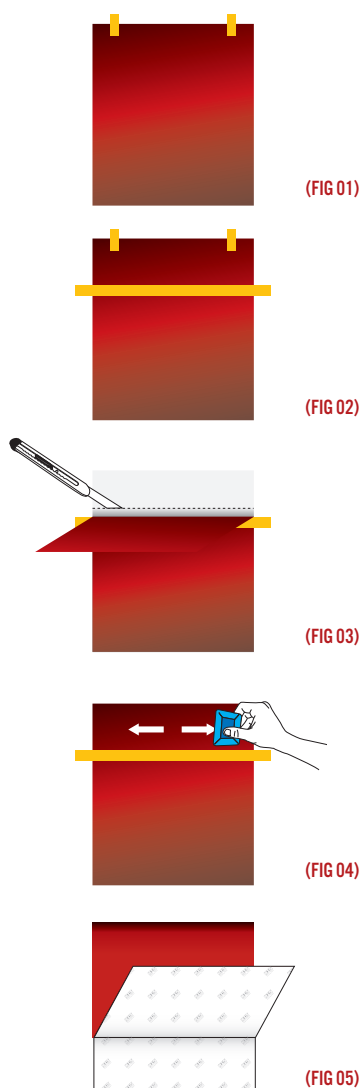
Before any application of the HX100 + (PC50 or PC30 or V750) or of the films on its own, make sure all surfaces are absolutely clean.

Application temperature:

The recommended application temperature is:

minimum +10°C (+50°F) for the HX100NTWG2,
between +20°C and +25°C (68°F and 77°F) for the HX100WG2.

The application temperature must be complied with both with regard to the room temperature and the temperature of the substrate. Hygrometrics may also influence the adhesion of the film on the substrate.



5.1 First steps and application of the HX100 onto flat surfaces

- › Wear cotton gloves (available in the tool case)

- › Position the printed film on the target surface so as to hold it in place without stretching it. (FIG 01)

- › With the help of strips of masking tape or magnets, make a horizontal hinge preferably on a flat area. (FIG 02)

- › Peel off 10cm (4in) of the liner. (FIG 03)

- › Start applying the vinyl using a squeegee (cover edge with felt strip) at an angle of 45° wiping from the centre towards the edges. (FIG 04)

- › Remove the top hinge and continue removing the liner, depending on the surface pattern (cf. paragraphs below). (FIG 05)

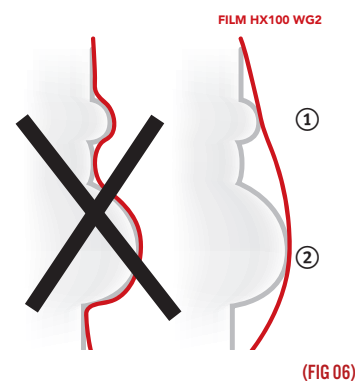
- › During application on flat surfaces, squeegee the entire surface and at the same time remove the liner steadily, firmly applying in particular along the edges.

5.2 Undulated surfaces

Having completed step 5.1, you may come across slight or heavy undulations for which the application process will be different.

5.2.1 Slight undulations: « stretched application » (FIG 06)

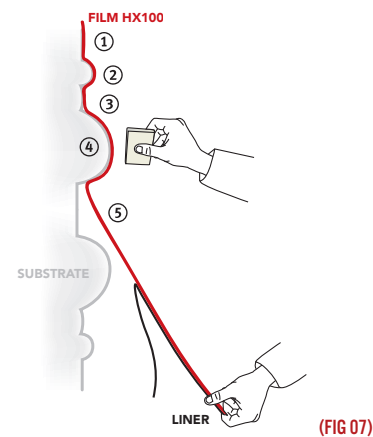
- › Remove all the liner.
- › Apply the stretched vinyl over the substrate so as to have it stick only to the peaks of the undulation. (FIG 06 ① AND ②)
- › Apply the surface contours with a finger or a squeegee.
- › Then heat the stretched areas to between 40°C and 50°C (104°F and 122°F) with the heat gun.
- › Keep applying heat and with a finger press the film down into the hollow from either side.
- › Without heating apply the area between the 2 undulations from the centre to the rims.
- › Now cut the contours if the substrate has several parts.
- › When the application is finished reheat all areas that have undergone a deformation to between 80 and 90°C (176 and 194°F) to thermoform the product definitively.



5.2.2 Heavy undulations: « extended application »

- › Remove the liner gradually by tensioning it towards the lower end. (FIG 07)
- › Apply the film with the thumb or a squeegee horizontally progressing slowly into the hollow of the undulation.
- › Apply the hollow ① then the peak ② and the hollow ③.
- › Go up onto the next peak ④ then go to ⑤ until the installation is completed.
- › The application is finished.

⚠ In the concave areas HEX'Press adhesive technology requires appropriate pressure in order to completely drive out any air that may remain in the micro-channels as any air that has not egressed and may not be visible may later result in the film lifting off the substrate.



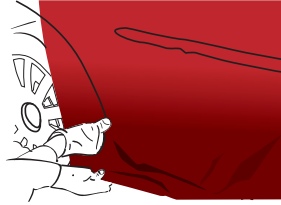
5.3 Concave surfaces

After 5.1 proceed as follows:

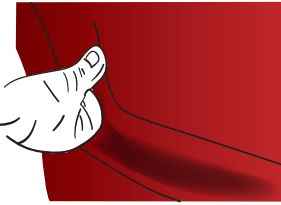
- › Remove all the liner (FIG 08)



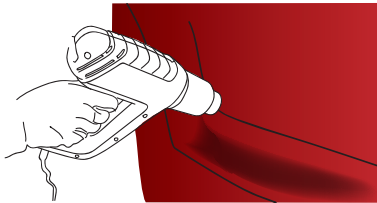
(FIG 08)



(FIG 09)



(FIG 10)



(FIG 11)

- › Stretch the vinyl over the substrate so that the film touches the peaks only.
- › Apply the film with a finger or a plastic squeegee covered with a felt sheet (FIG 09).
- › If necessary, lift off again and re-stretch the film; then apply.

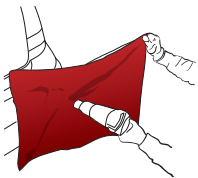
- › Heat to between 40 and 50°C (104 and 122°F) and with a finger press down into the hollow area so as to apply the adhesive (FIG 10).

⚠ *HEX'Press adhesive technology makes the film repositionable during application and allows easy elimination of air bubbles. However particularly in concave areas HEX'Press adhesive technology requires appropriate pressure in order to completely drive out any air that may remain in the micro-channels as any air that has not egressed and may not be visible may later result in the film lifting off the substrate. HEXIS recommends you pay particular attention to the application of HEX'Press media in concave areas.*

- › When finished, reheat all hollow areas that have undergone strong stretching to between 80 and 90°C (176 and 194°F) in order to definitely thermoform the product (FIG 11).

5.4 Convex surfaces

Having completed step 5.1 proceed as follows:

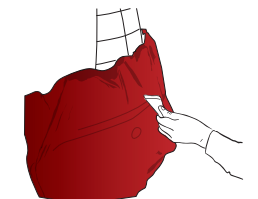


(FIG 12)

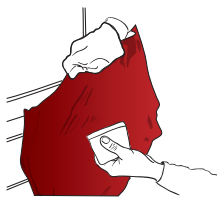


(FIG 13)

- › Remove the liner.
- › Heat the vinyl to between 40°C and 50°C (104°F and 122°F) (FIG 12) then stretch the film so as to completely wrap the convex surface (FIG 13).



(FIG 14)



(FIG 15)

- › Apply the vinyl over the entire surface with the help of a plastic squeegee covered with a felt sheet and carefully wipe over the convex area (FIG 14) to eliminate any tensions.

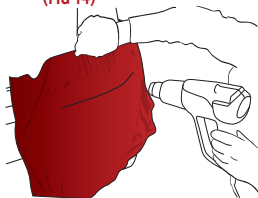
- › If necessary, lift the film, re-stretch it and completely wrap the convex surface (FIG 15).

- › Next heat to between 40°C and 50°C (104°F and 122°F) (FIG 16) and squeegee down.

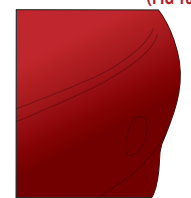
- › Leave to cool down.

- › Cut the film if necessary and reheat to 80-90°C (176-194°F) for optimum adhesion.

- › The application is completed (FIG 17).



(FIG 16)



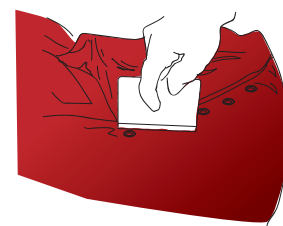
(FIG 17)

5.5 Riveted surfaces

Having completed step 5.1 proceed as follows:

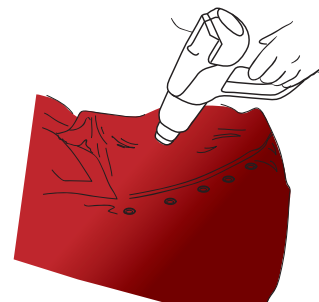
- When you encounter a rivet, the vinyl is stretched. Apply a little heat between 40°C and 50°C (104°F and 122°F).

- With a squeegee go all around the rivet (FIG 18) and pierce the rivet 2 or 3 times with a needle to evacuate any trapped air.



(FIG 18)

- Next heat each rivet again to 80 to 90°C (176 to 194°F). (FIG 19)



(FIG 19)

5.6 In addition for a full vehicle wrap

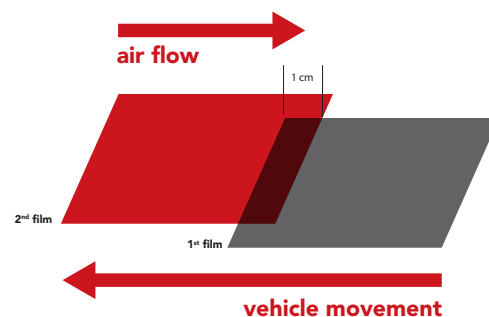
- On vehicles the application of film on seals between windows and/or body panels must by all means be avoided.

- Whenever a horizontal application becomes necessary as on engine hoods or roofs this may over time lead to a slight attenuation of colour and gloss compared to vertically exposed areas. As these areas suffer maximum exposure to sunlight and climatic influences they are not covered by the manufacturers warranty regarding durability.

- If an overlap of widths becomes necessary, HEXIS recommends 1cm (0.4in) carried out in the following way:

- Horizontal overlap of the HX100: install from the bottom working towards the top so that the upper part of the film (higher) overlaps the lower part (tiling).

- Vertical overlap of the HX100 on mobile surfaces: as the film is always applied starting at the rear of the vehicle working towards the front, the overlap is done in the same way (FIG 20).



(FIG 20)

- Avoid applying HX100 films on unpainted components such as trim or unpainted bumpers.

- The first steps are the most important and here is some essential advice:

- Make a hinge as indicated above (chapter 5.1, First steps and application of the HX100 onto flat surfaces, page 4) just above the door handles.

- Cut and remove the liner on the upper part.

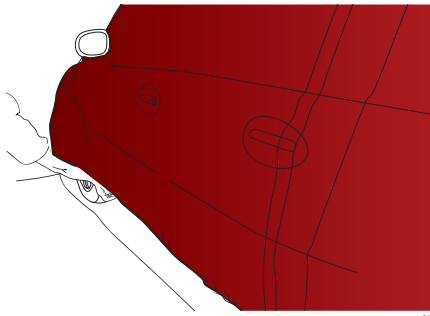
- Tension the film and apply with the help of a squeegee.

- Once the upper part is applied, remove the remaining liner on the lower part.

- Tension the film over the door handles and with a squeegee apply the film along the contours of the door handles. (FIG 21)



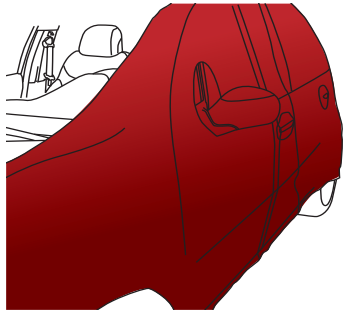
(FIG 21)



(FIG 22)

➤ Once the door handles are done, tension the film down to the bottom of the vehicle body. (FIG 22)

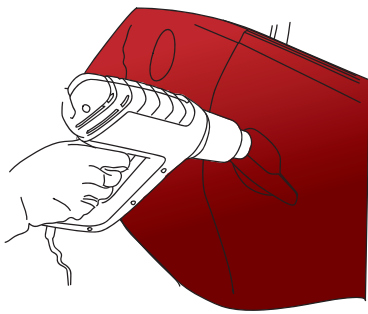
➤ If necessary lift the film off again, stretch it again and heat to between 40°C and 50°C (104°F and 122°F) so as to remove any folds.



(FIG 23)

➤ The film is now stretched over the total surface area to be wrapped. You can apply the film (FIG 23) according to the type of surface.

6. USE OF THE HEAT GUN



(FIG 24)

You have used the heat gun for dry application onto complex surfaces (concave, convex and riveted).

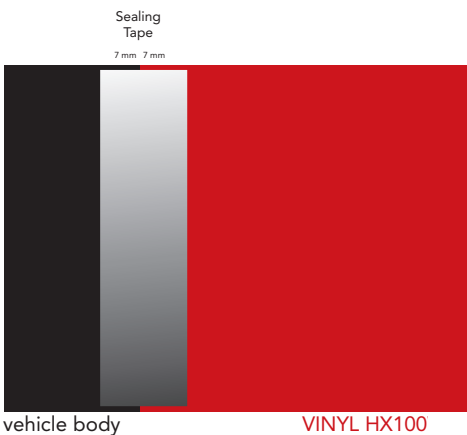
When the application is finished, reheat all areas that underwent heavy deformation with the heat gun (FIG 24). The temperature should be between 80°C and 90°C (176°F and 194°F); check with the laser thermometer (included in the HEXIS MALCOV tool case). The heat accelerates the bonding process of the pressure sensitive adhesive. Thus the vinyl is definitely thermoformed.

7. EDGE SEALING TAPE OR EDGE SEALING VARNISH

HEXIS recommends the use of sealing strips with the PC50 or PC30 or V750 laminates rather than the use of a sealing varnish in combination with the HX100 applied to vehicles (to avoid any risk of damage to the vehicle paint during the removal). However in certain cases such as HX100 applied to trains, heavy machinery or boats, the sealing varnish VR7077 will be required to reinforce the edges of the film.

7.1 Edge sealing tape

To increase the adhesion of the HX100 film on areas exposed to heavy wear such as door sills, wheel cages etc., you may use strips of V750 laminate on flat surfaces or PC50 or PC30 for slightly curved surfaces.



(FIG 25)

➤ Cut the laminate into strips 14mm (1/2in) wide.

➤ Apply the strips with an overlap of approx. 7mm (1/4in) on the vehicle body and 7mm (1/4in) over the HX100 film. (FIG 25)

HEXIS Advice: Preferably use sealing strips rather than the VR7077 varnish for most applications.

7.2 Sealing varnish

The VR7077 varnish should only be applied to reinforce the resistance and the adhesion of the edges of the HX100 film subjected to heavy stress without modifying the adhesion properties of the films.

HEXIS Advice: Preferably use sealing strips rather than the VR7077 varnish for most applications.

The use of the VR7077 varnish is at the installer's discretion.

- › Ensure that all surfaces are completely dry.
- › Apply 2 strips of masking tape:
1 on the substrate at 5mm (0.2in) from the edge of the HX100.
1 on the HX100 at 5mm (0.2in) from the edge. (FIG 26)
- › Apply the varnish with a brush in one single coat; wear gloves and protective goggles.
- › Remove the masking tape 15 minutes after application.
- › The drying time is variable depending on the thickness of the varnish coat and the surrounding temperature: for a film with an average coat, the optimum drying time is 24 hours. Any physical aggression (cleaning, abrasion, etc.) must be avoided by all means during that time.



⚠ By all means avoid contact between the varnish and the window seals.

8. CLEANING AND MAINTENANCE OF THE HX100 FILM

The HX100 may be cleaned in a conventional automatic car wash using cleaning products and detergents used for professional maintenance of vehicles and advertising equipment. Nevertheless exercise care: medium pressure at a distance of at least 50cm (20in) and a water temperature of 35°C (95°F) at the most.

⚠ It is however advisable not to clean the film during the 48 hours following the application to avoid the risk of affecting its adhesion which might result in the film lifting off.

⚠ Do not use any solvents or corrosive detergents.

⚠ HEXIS declines all responsibility if any unknown additives are used during cleaning.

⚠ Car wash: additives and the condition of the rotating brushes may affect the behaviour of the graphics or the films. It is generally admitted that 10 automatic washes scratch polyurethane paints, and for this reason and in the same manner, this mechanical effect may damage the appearance of the vinyl but remains beyond the manufacturer's liability.

HEXIS Advice: always carry out a test on a small area before you clean the total surface of a vehicle wrap.

9. REMOVAL OF THE VINYL

The HX100 film carries a permanent adhesive; for this reason the removal needs some attention. Nevertheless, if you follow the instructions below, the removal will be relatively easy.


- › With the heat gun, starting in one corner heat the film at a temperature of around 60°C (140°F) (use the laser thermometer).
- › Peel the corner with the help of a cutter blade (available in the tool case) without damaging the substrate and then progressively heat the other areas and remove the film. The film should be peeled at an angle of 70° to 80° relative to the substrate.



 *An angle wider or narrower will make breaking up of the film more likely.*

- ▶ Always proceed gradually by heating small areas and carefully removing the film so as to avoid the risk of breaking up the film and of leaving any adhesive on the surface.
- ▶ Continue gentle heating and carefully peel the film until the complete surface area is removed exercising particular care as to the temperature, the peeling angle and the peeling speed.
- ▶ If any adhesive remains on the substrate, use a piece of cloth soaked with our product DECOLL'VIT and gently rub the surface until all adhesive traces have disappeared.
- ▶ To ease the removal of the VR7077 edge sealing varnish, acetone may be used.

 *The liquids may damage seals. Take the necessary precautions before starting the cleaning process.*

 *Before handling any liquids, refer to the data sheets on our website: www.hexis-graphics.com.*

For further information of a technical nature, refer to to Data Sheets available for download from our website www.hexis-graphics.com under Professionals/ Data sheets.'

The great diversity of media and the ever growing number of possible applications commit the user to ensure that the product is suitable for each usage. The information given does not constitute a warranty. The seller assumes no liability for claims or damages beyond the replacement value of a product. Specifications are subject to changes without notice. Updates to specifications can be found on our website www.hexis-graphics.com.



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