



GerberColor™ Finishing (GCF) Series Foils

- ◆ Abrasion Guard™ SPF (Sign Protection Formula)
- ◆ Matte Clear finishing foil

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DESCRIPTION

GerberColor Finishing (GCF) Series foils are durable, dimensionally stable, resin-based foils designed for use with the Gerber EDGE® Digital Printing Systems and EDGE READY™ materials.

The Finishing Series foils have been developed primarily for overprint applications, which enhance the durability and/or the appearance of printed images, and consist of:

- ◆ Abrasion Guard™ SPF (GCF-214) foil
- ◆ Matte Finish (GCF-334) foil

INTENDED APPLICATIONS

Abrasion Guard SPF (**Sign Protection Formula**) is specifically designed to improve the UV resistance of EDGE-printed graphics. This clear, topcoat GerberColor foil also protects graphics from moderate contact or handling.

Matte Finish is designed to reduce the gloss level of printed graphics or cut vinyl and will only slightly enhance the outdoor durability of EDGE prints. Graphics and vinyl that have been overprinted with Matte Finish will have their gloss level reduced by 60%.

If extreme petrochemical contact is anticipated, refer to the section below on protecting graphics with Gerber overlamine film options.

APPLICATION TECHNIQUES

When transferring EDGE-printed graphics, Gerber standard tack application tape is required. Printed graphics should be allowed to cure for 15 minutes prior to application of transfer tape.

PERFORMANCE LIFE

When printed on EDGE READY materials and applied vertically on stationary, non-vehicle sign applications, GerberColor Abrasion Guard SPF will have a performance life of five years. 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 Finish will have a performance life of three years.

Performance statements are based upon laboratory and/or lifetime tests that we believe are reliable. Exposure angle, environmental conditions and maintenance of markings will affect ultimate performance.

Continuous exposure in regions that experience maximum sunny days will result in decreased performance.

PRINTING

GCF foils are compatible with EDGE READY materials in overprint combinations with the following GerberColor Series - GerberColor Spot (GCS), GerberColor Process (GCP), and GerberColor Transparent (GCT).

Abrasion Guard SPF will be included as the last foil in a print when the Abrasion Guard box is checked in the QuickPlot print settings screen.

- ◆ Beginning with OMEGA version 2.6.1, downloads to update the plot files with unique Abrasion Guard SPF settings will be available from the Gerber web site (www.gspinc.com). If this download is unavailable to you then use the standard Abrasion Guard settings.

PROTECTING GRAPHICS

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

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

Gerber UVGuard™ is a 1-mil TEDLAR®-based overlamine that is designed to protect printed and cut graphics from UV exposure and/or severe handling conditions or abrasion. Gerber UVGuard is designed to work on Gerber Series 220, Series 225, and Gerber Stardust™ Gold and Stardust Silver vinyl films. Gerber UVGuard will increase the durability of most GerberColor Spot, Process and Finishing foils to five years even if they are exposed horizontally. In addition, Gerber UVGuard will allow for simple cleaning of graffiti and mildew. The adhesive system of Gerber UVGuard is petrochemical resistant. (Note: The performance life of GerberColor Spot Pink will be minimally improved by use with Gerber UVGuard.)

SHELF LIFE AND STORAGE

Printed graphics should be applied within 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. Foils must be stored below 100° F (38° C) and within 40% to 60% humidity. When not in use, cartridges should be kept in their package sleeves. Use a paper interleaf between printed materials that are stacked or rolled. Do not store printed graphics face to face.

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 be avoided.

PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Characteristics	GCF-214 (Abrasion Guard)	GCF-334 (Matte Finish)
Pigment	Resin-Based	Resin-Based
Coat Weight	4 microns	4 microns

CHEMICAL RESISTANCE – Printed On Gerber HP Series 220

Chemical Agent	Exposure Time	Results
SAE 20 Motor Oil	24 hours	No Effect
50/50 Ethylene Glycol/Water	24 hours	No Effect
Dish Detergent / Water	24 hours	No Effect
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

RELATED LITERATURE

GerberColor Spot (GCS) Series, GerberColor Process (GCP) Series, GerberColor Transparent (GCT) Series, and Gerber Guard, Gerber UV Guard, Gerber HP Series 220, Gerber HP Series 225, Gerber Stardust Product Bulletins.

For help with questions concerning Gerber products, please call your distributor or Gerber Customer Service at 1-800-222-7446 or (860) 643-1515.

GerberColor, AbrasionGuard, EDGE READY, Gerber Stardust, Gerber UVGuard and GerberGuard are Trademarks of Gerber Scientific Products, Inc. Tedlar is a registered trademark of Dupont Inc.

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