

[METRIC]  
A-A-3138  
July 9, 1998  
SUPERSEDING  
MMM-A-115B  
August 6, 1979

## COMMERCIAL ITEM DESCRIPTION

### ADHESIVE, ASPHALT, Water Emulsion Type (For Asphalt and Vinyl Composition Tiles)

The General Services Administration has authorized the use of this commercial item description for all federal agencies.

1. **SCOPE.** This commercial item description covers a water emulsion type of asphalt-latex adhesive suitable for the installation of asphalt and vinyl composition tiles on primed and unprimed concrete, hardwood, or plywood subfloors. These floors may be above, on, or below grade.

#### 2. SALIENT CHARACTERISTICS.

2.1 Viscosity: The viscosity of the adhesive shall not be less than 7,000 nor more than 30,000 cps when tested in accordance with ASTM D 1084, method B using a Brookfield viscometer (or equivalent) and number 6 spindle at 20 rpm.

2.2 Drying time: The adhesive shall be dry to the touch in not more than 90 minutes when tested as follows: Stir the adhesive until uniform. Spread a sample of the adhesive on an aluminum plate approximately 45 x 150 x 0.8 mm (1.75 x 6 x 0.031 inches) using a Bird Film Applicator set or equivalent with a gap clearance of 0.25 mm (0.010 inch). Allow the adhesive on the plate to dry in open air at standard conditions (23 +/- 2 deg. C) and 50 +/- 5% humidity for not longer than 90 minutes. The film is dry if it does not transfer to the finger under light pressure.

Beneficial comments, recommendations, additions, deletions, clarifications, etc and any other data which may improve this document should be sent to: General Services Administration, GSA Center (10FTE), Auburn, Washington 98001.

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2.3 Peel strength: The peel strength of the cured adhesive shall not be less than 350 N/M (2 lb/in) when tested in accordance with ASTM D 903. The test adherends shall be rigid, 1.6 mm (1/16 in) aluminum panels and 627.4 g/sq. M (30 oz/sq yd) cotton duck. The pull angle shall be 90 degrees instead of 180 degrees, and the crosshead pull speed shall be 2.54 cm/min (1 inch/min) instead of 30 cm/min (12 in/min).

2.4 Alkali resistance: When tested as follows, the adhesive shall produce no turbidity or coloration of the alkaline solution. Equilibrate the adhesive at standard conditions, and stir until uniform. Spread over one face of a glass plate 10.2 x 7.6 x 0.3 cm (4 x 3 x 1/8 inches) by means of a film applicator having a 0.0254 cm (0.010 inch) gap clearance. Dry the adhesive for 48 hours at standard conditions. Immerse the plate with film in a 5% (wt.) NaOH solution so that 80% of the total plate area is submerged. After 18 hours of immersion, remove the plate, and examine the solution for turbidity or color change.

2.5 Sag: When tested as follows, the adhesive shall not sag more than 13 mm (1/2 in). The adhesive shall be stirred until uniform and spread on a clean, dry steel plate 305 X 305 X 3 mm (12 X 12 X 1/8 in) with a standard notched trowel held at an angle of 45 degrees. The plate containing the adhesive shall be conditioned for 1.5 hours at standard conditions. A piece of asphalt tile 114 X 114 X 3 mm (4.5 X 4.5 X 1/8 in) shall be placed without pressure on the adhesive film. A steel plate measuring 178 X 178 X 6 mm (7 X 7 X 1/4 in) with a mass of 1.58-1.68 kg shall be placed without added pressure onto the piece of the tile. After 1 hour, the steel pressure plate shall be removed from the tile and the adhesive film marked along one edge of the tile with a sharp, pointed instrument. The steel plate with the adhesive film and the tile up shall be placed at an angle of 80 degrees from the horizontal against a rigid support with the marked line on the film at the top. The steel plate shall be permitted to remain in this position for a period of 1 hour permitting the tile to sag downward unencumbered. At the end of 1 hour, the amount of sag of the tile shall be determined for compliance by measuring the distance from the marked line on the adhesive film to the top edge of the tile at the center to the nearest mm.

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### 3. REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS.

3.1 The offeror/contractor is encouraged to use recovered materials to the maximum extent practicable, in accordance with paragraph 23.403 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR).

### 4. QUALITY ASSURANCE PROVISIONS.

4.1 The contractor shall certify and maintain substantiating evidence that the product offered meets the salient characteristics of this Commercial Item Description, and that the product conforms to the producer's own drawings, specifications, standards, and quality assurance practices, and is the same product offered for sale in the commercial marketplace. The government reserves the right to require proof of such conformance prior to first delivery and thereafter as may be otherwise provided for under the provisions of the contract.

5. PACKAGING. Packaging, preservation, packing, and marking shall be as specified in the contract or order.

### 6. NOTES.

6.1 Copies of ASTM standards are available from the American Society for Testing and Materials, 100 Barr Harbor Drive, West Conshohocken, PA 19428-2959.

MILITARY INTEREST:

Preparing Activity:  
GSA-FSS

Custodian

Air Force - 99

Review Activity

Air Force - 84