

Library of Congress Preservation Directorate
Specification Number 500-522 – 09
Specifications for Polyester: Poly(ethylene-terephthalate)
"L-Sealed" Enclosure with Flap for Uni-Mat

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1. Composition and Chemical Requirements

1.1 Content

The polyester must be a clear, colorless, [biaxially oriented/stressed/drawn] poly(ethylene-terephthalate), [PET] film .

1.2 Impurities

The clear and colorless PET film must not contain any plasticizer, surface coatings, UV inhibitors, or absorbents, and must be guaranteed to be non-yellowing with natural aging. As received, the film must not contain any coloring agents.

2. Physical and Performance Requirements

2.1 Thickness

The thickness of the film must meet the requirement specified on the purchase order. Typical thicknesses for enclosures are 3, 4, and 5 mil.

2.2 Surfaces

The film surface must be free of dents, dings, fingerprints, scratches, abrasions, inclusions or other imperfections.

2.3 Seals

Seals must be done by edge welding unless otherwise specified on the purchase order. All seals must be complete, clear, and continuous. The seals must not be mottled, crystallized, bubbled, brittle, burned, show evidence of capillary marks ("caterpillar tracks"), or other indications of poor seals. Sealed edges must lie flat without causing planar distortion of the item.

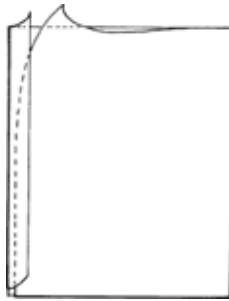
2.4 Durability

The sealed edges must be able to withstand moderate handling without separating or splitting. Seals must not crack when tested by pulling the seal between two fingernails at a 45degree angle. The seal must not separate when tested by running a finger along the inside of the seal. The seal must not split at the beginning of the cut end of the sealed edge when pulled slightly.

3. Product Requirements

3.1 Construction

The enclosure must be constructed of two sheets of PET film, one of which is 1/8 inch larger in the short direction. The right long sides and the bottom short sides should be sealed together, when viewed from the flap side with the larger sheet to the back. A one inch wide strip of PET film should be sealed to the recto of the extending long side of the back sheet so that it acts as a flap over the top sheet. The top edge of the strip should be even with the top edge of the enclosure and not be sealed. The bottom edge of the strip should be 1/8 inch shorter than the enclosure and not sealed. (Illustration below)



Polyester enclosure – "L-sealed" with flap

3.2 Workmanship

The enclosures must be cut straight with squared sides. The sizes must be accurate. The edges must be smooth and even and meet exactly.

3.3 Dimensions

Dimensions will be specified on the purchase order. The allowable tolerance for each dimension is $\pm 1/16$ inch.

3.4 Marking

There must be no identification marks on the film.

4. Packaging and Identification

4.1 Inner Packages

Each package must plainly identify the type, size and number of items within, the name of the supplier or manufacturer, year of manufacture, and manufacturing run or batch number.

4.2 Outer Package

The items must be packed in standard commercial containers that are constructed to ensure that they arrive at the Library of Congress in dry, undamaged condition. The outside of each container must be identified by type, size and number of items within; manufacturing run or batch number; LC Purchase Order / Contract number and line number.

5. Compliance with Specification

5.1 Quality Assurance Testing

The Library of Congress has the right to perform any relevant instrumental analyses or tests deemed necessary to ensure that supplies conform to prescribed requirements.

5.2 Sampling

To sample for testing, shipments will be sampled according to ANSI/ASQ Z1.4, inspection level S-2, AQL 2.5%.

5.3 Acceptance

Materials will be accepted when the Library of Congress has ascertained that the products comply with all parts of the specification.

FAILURE TO MEET ANY PART OF THE SPECIFICATION WILL BE CAUSE FOR REJECTION

Configuration Management

Date	Revision History
9-Jul-2002	Initial release of document on website, html format.
14-Dec-2009	Revised and reformatted for release as PDF document.