

Temperature and its Influence on Labelling

Tips & Tricks No. 7



The viscosity of high speed labelling adhesives, regardless of whether they are based on casein, dispersion or other polymer mixtures, is highly dependent on temperature. This is, of course, more pronounced with formulations which were specifically designed to be temperature-sensitive, but is also true of labelling adhesives with a high casein content.

Every product, however, has its optimal processing temperature determined by the machine or process, which in turn determines the viscosity, open time, working time, initial tack, etc. It is therefore very important that, after selecting the correct adhesive, the optimal processing conditions, mainly the temperature, are strictly adhered to. Only in this way is it possible to ensure trouble-free machine running. This applies, however, not only to the adhesive, but also to all surrounding parts and those affecting the product: a cold glue roller cools down an adhesive which has been applied at the correct processing temperature and an incorrectly-stored label accepts the adhesive in a different way from one which has been stored under the correct conditions.

In this context it should be borne in mind that the adhesive and the labels in particular are brought to the correct temperature on a long-term basis. Short-term conditioning is not possible. Only the interaction of all perfectly stored products will ensure trouble-free processing and provide a presentation which will also withstand the customer's critical eye.

In order to guarantee the correct glue temperature, care must be taken to provide a functional, heated glue pump. In this area, cph works hand-in-hand with a well-known pump manufacturer, so that not only the adhesive is applied smoothly but the necessary heating is also ensured, both for bucket purchase and in processing from a container.