



# HOLDING IT ALL TOGETHER

## ADHESIVES FOR PAPER SACKS

Solvicol®



# Contents



Definitions



High Porous Kraft Paper



Challenges



Additives



Mixing



Environmental Concerns

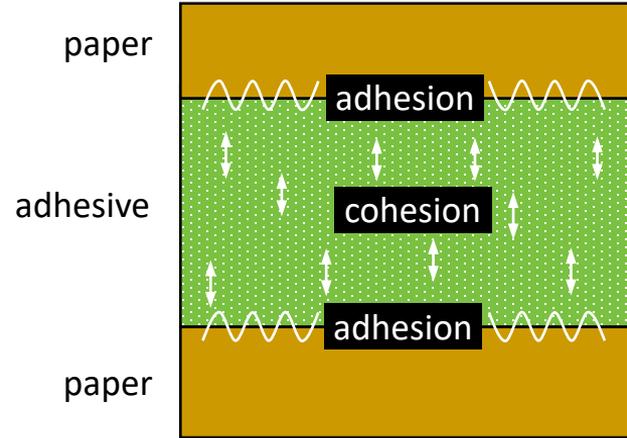
# Mechanism of Gluing

## Adhesion:

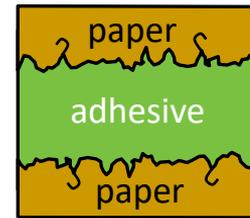
Force on the interface of two unlike substances.  
Bonding of an adhesive to a surface by a combination of mechanical, physical and chemical forces.

## Cohesion:

Where the particles of a single substance holds itself together.

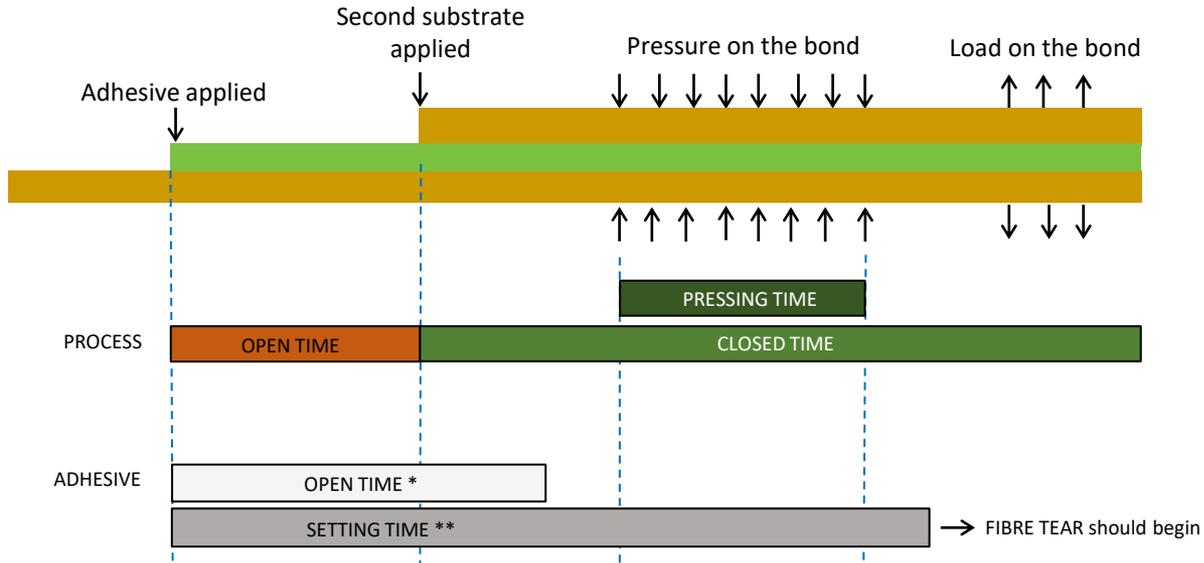


Anchoring of an adhesive into paper  
(for visualisation only)





# Process of Adhesion



- Adhesive should not set immediately  
Open time of the adhesive should be longer than the process time to allow for minor adjustments (alignment)
- Adhesive should set before the process is complete  
The setting time should be shorter than the open time + the closed time of the process. Fibre tear should be expected after the setting time.

**Note :** Setting time is the time after which fibre tear occurs. Setting time is not the same as drying time.



# Viscosity

Viscosity is the resistance to flow & measured by either a viscometer or with a calibrated cup.

### Influenced by:

- adhesive composition
- degree of dilution (dry solid content)
- temperature
- shear applied
- time (stability)
- equipment

### Examples of different viscosities

Peanut Butter



Sour cream



Ketchup



Motor Oil



Water

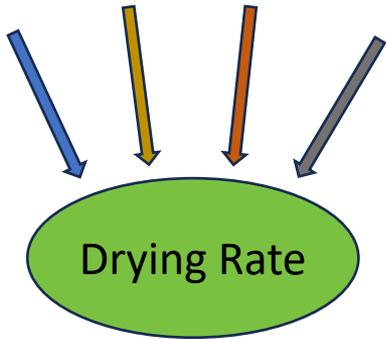


### Side Note : Quality Control : When measuring viscosity, always

- keep a log of measurements for each batch
- let a sample rest for 20 minutes before measuring
- record measuring temperature
- measure at the same temperature
- record glue type and batch number
- record glue to water ratio

- QC control
- to allow entrained air to escape
- QC control
- consistent measuring parameter
- QC control
- consistent measuring parameter

# Factors that Influence Paper Sack Drying Rates



- Composition of adhesive
- **Quantity of adhesive applied**
- Paper quality
- Bag design
- **Environment** }
- **Ventilation** }
- Machine design
- Roller Pressure

(binder/polymer/ds)  
 (grams glue + grams water)  
 (porosity/cobb)  
 (PE liner/# plies)  
 (Evaporation °C, %RH)  
 (stacking pattern, storage)

(improve spread and penetration)

Glue qty applied, ie, solvent content, has a very big influence on drying time

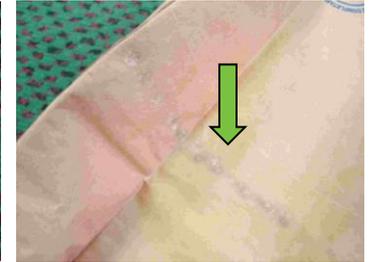
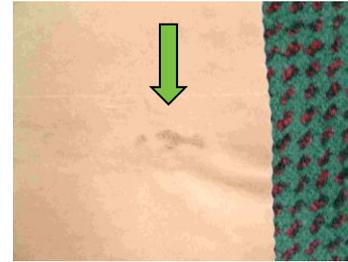
Liquid adhesive amount	Dry solids content of the adhesive	Water content in the adhesive
100	17%	83%
100	30%	70%

## Common Issue : Strike Through

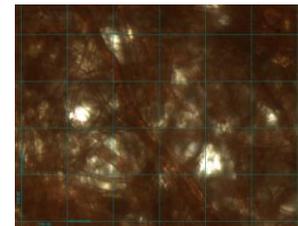
This is when the adhesive penetrates through the paper, causing adjacent sheets to stick together.

Due to

- Too much adhesive used,
- Splashing of adhesive
- Poorly designed glue
- Paper porosity
- Excessive roller pressure

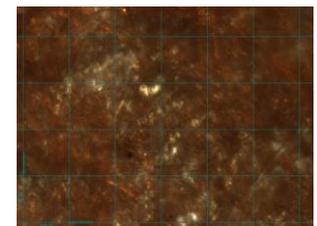


High porosity paper  
(Gurley 5 s/100ml)



100  $\mu\text{m}$

Normal paper  
(Gurley 20 s/100ml)



# Challenges of Adhesion to HP Papers

The concern : glue penetration control

The paper influencing factors :

- Grammage
- Porosity
- Pore size
- Roughness of surface
- Water absorption (cobb)

## Roughness



High Roughness Low gsm

*Roughness causes pooling and thus, may promote bleed through*

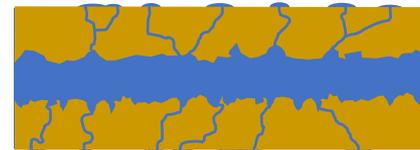
## Porosity and Grammage



Low Porosity - High Grammage

*traditional - usually easily manageable*

paper  
adhesive  
paper



High Porosity - Low Grammage

*specialty engineered adhesives needed to prevent bleed*



Desired Outcome

### Ideally ...

- even film forming
- sufficient anchoring
- controlled penetration



High Porosity - Low Grammage

Definitions :

high porous ( $\leq 5$  s)

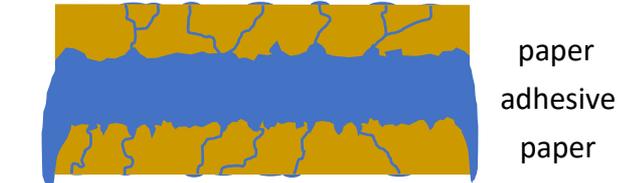
low grammage ( $\leq 70$  g/m<sup>2</sup>)

pore size 1 - 80  $\mu$ m average 25  $\mu$ m

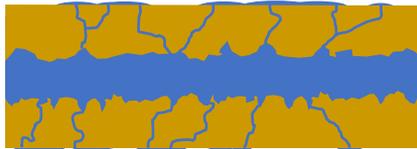
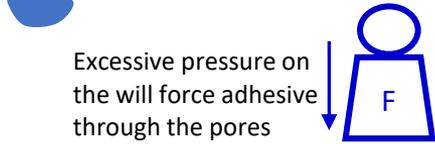
70 g/m<sup>2</sup> paper = average 100  $\mu$ m thick

liquid adhesive amount applied = average 100- 150  $\mu$ m thick

# Effect of Overdose, Excessive Pressure & Solids



Glue Overdose



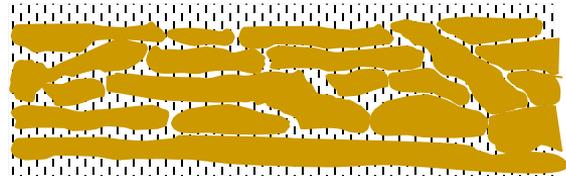
Excessive Pressure

With the correct dosage and pressure

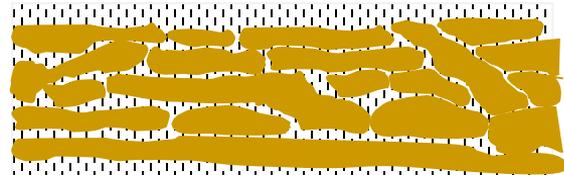


Dry solid content (15–30 %)

Low Solids - high water content



Low Molecular Weight  
no resistance to penetration





# Adhesive Types

## Adhesives

- Modified starch-based (modified starch dissolved in water)
- PVAc based (Dispersion of polyvinyl-acetate in water)

## Modifications to starch-based adhesive

- Add a filler (calcium carbonate, clay) **not for nozzle applications**
- Add PVAc (**not recommended, but if needed, only on traditional older machines**)
- Adjust dissolving ratio (fine-tune viscosity)
- Try alternative Solvicol products

Starch adhesive dissolved in water  
17% solids (approx.)

water binding – controlled film forming  
good open time  
easily tuned to optimize performance  
Easy to clean machine – minimise down time  
bond not affected by heat  
does not stick well to plastics\*

\* will work with corona treatment but, PVAc is easier

PVAc\* dispersed in water  
50% solids (approx) (polymer + plasticizer)

water pushed out – fast film forming  
very short open time  
Hard residue – hard to clean  
Longer machine down time – production loss  
bond can soften when hot cement loaded

Sometimes, PVAc has to be used, but where possible, use a starch based product



## Additives & their Effect on Solvicol

Type of additive	: Filler (10–30 % on Solvicol powder)
General Effect	: increase dry solids change rheology ( <b>structure</b> ) closing of the paper pores <b>shorter drying time</b>
Type of additive	: PVAc dispersion (25–30% on Solvicol powder)
General Effect	: increase dry solid faster film formation closing of sheet surface

Possible fillers  
CaCO<sub>3</sub> - (1–20 μm)  
Clay - (1–10 μm)

Plasticized homopolymer  
(should be compatible  
with starch)



## New System Start Up

When a new system is started up, a number of parameters must be checked upon.

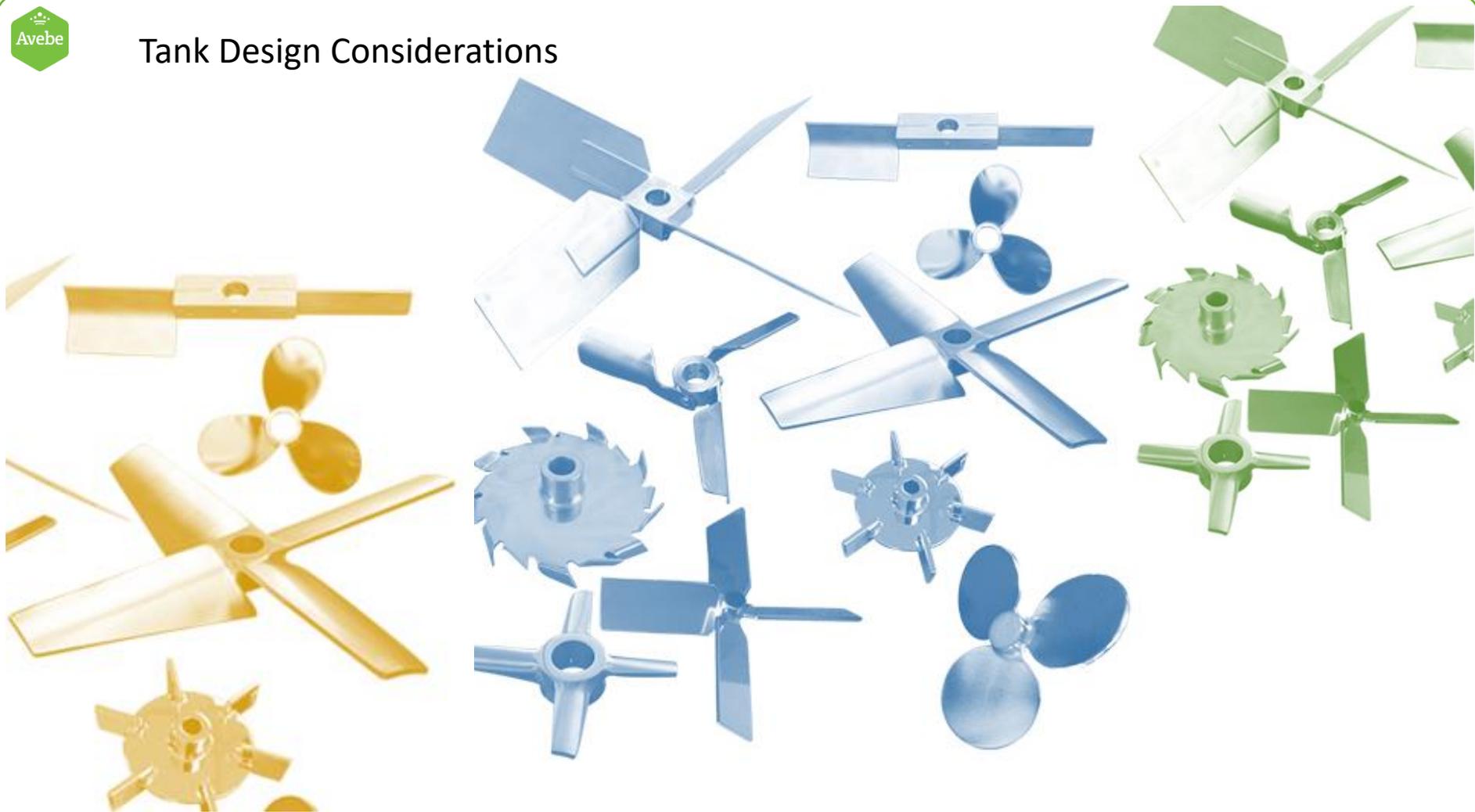
Please do not assume that a new glue make down system is designed ideally. Engineering companies will design a theoretically derived ideal system to the best of their knowledge.

However, we are dealing with adhesives, and some parameters could have been overlooked. Factors that would compromise the efficiency and flexibility of your system.

Please do contact AVEBE (me). I will request for certain information that will help me evaluate the system and propose modifications and upgrades if necessary. We have designed and upgraded many systems

*(Your information will remain confidential. Most of the time, what you may think is top secret is actually common knowledge, and only you think it is top secret 😊)*

# Tank Design Considerations





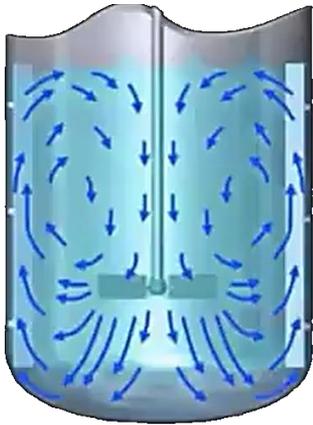
## Glue Make Down Factors

There are many factors that influence the the quality of the glue that is made down

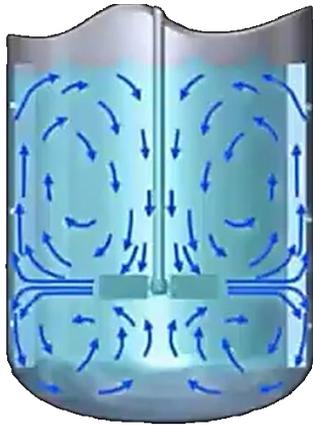
- Tank design (Flow. Dispersion. Blend. Dissolve. Air Entrainment)
- Impeller used (Dispersion Efficiency)
- Pouring speed (Paste Quality. Lumping)
- Water quality (Bacteria. Enzymes.)
- System hygiene (Piping design. Dead spots. Flushing frequency. Biocide type.)
- Storage tank design (Agitator speed. Agitator type. Storage time. Covered )
- Distribution system (Pump. Pressure tank. Manual.)

# Tank Design Factors

Flow pattern  
which is the ideal  
flow pattern?!

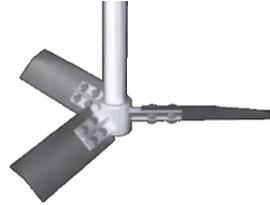


Axial Flow

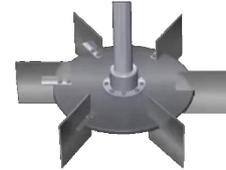


Radial Flow

Impeller type  
which one to use?!



Low Viscosity  
Hydrofoil



Rushton  
Turbine



Wide Blade  
Hydrofoil



Marine Propeller  
Impeller

# Factors that Influence Mixing

well dispersed



[click on video to play](#)

poor dispersion

due to powder dissolving too fast



Factors that could cause this -

- High water temperature (too fast dissolving)
- Poor tank/mixer design (poor dispersion and turbulence)
- Incorrect addition rate
- Powder dissolving rate

# Biodegradable? 😐

## A little bit about Sustainability and Pollution



<https://www.dezeen.com/2019/04/30/biodegradable-plastic-bags-research-university-plymouth/>

Use natural safe organic products *wherever possible*\*. eg, paper, starch etc  
These will decompose over time as they are organic.

*Sometimes, synthetics must be used.* Imagine what those trillions of PP bags in dumps are doing to your water, land and families. Only use non-decomposable products when absolutely necessary.



Bags labelled as “biodegradable” still usable after 3 years when tested under normal conditions.

It takes many MANY years for a plastic bag or PP bag to degrade (they do not decompose as they are not organic) in a landfill. Unfortunately, the bags don't break down completely but instead photo-degrade, becoming microplastics and continue to pollute the environment.\*

\*ACS Publications. 2020. “Degradation Rates of Plastics in the Environment,” Pages 3495, 3499-3500, 3503. <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acssuschemeng.9b06635>







**ALWAYS READY TO HELP**  
**WITH A GOOD SOLUTION**

BECAUSE  
WE  
KNOW  
HOW



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