



A Big Easy SGIA Success!

With over 19,000 registrants and a live marching band, SGIA Expo 2017 didn't miss a beat!

With 597 exhibitors, this show covered everything from a variety of printers to software and media. It was impossible to leave New Orleans without ideas, and solutions. Industry leaders such as HP, EFI, Durst, and Mimaki all offered their take on the inkjet markets, opening up the realm of possibilities for plastics, fabrics and rigid materials while also showing how their improvements allow for wider, faster and more profitable printing, with inkjet being a resounding theme.

Our team met with hundreds of attendees searching for substrates and ideas to broaden their portfolios. Some of our most popular products centered on our inkjet lines with the biggest hit being our JetView Solvent Blockout material. This material offers versatility, being solvent, UV, and latex printable. Other items of interest were our hardcoated line of films, which feature abrasion and chemical resistant coatings and our line of Henkel conductive inks. Our portfolio of products always seems to bring a variety of attendees looking for solutions for a wide range of applications from the POP market to overlays and everything in between.

SGIA has been known to be the best place to connect with varying areas of the print industry, share ideas and keep an eye on the industry trends. This year was no exception.



UL Flame Ratings for Polycarbonate Films

Polycarbonate films can be used in a large variety of applications some of which have more stringent specifications than others. A common specification requirement is that the polycarbonate film be UL rated, meaning that it has been tested and assigned a rating by the Underwriters Laboratory. According to the [UL website](#), the Underwriters Laboratory provides inspection, testing, analytics, etc. in regards to various types of technologies.

In regards to the polycarbonate film industry, the Underwriters Laboratory evaluates a material's ignition, burning, electrical, physical, and mechanical characteristics. Once these tests have been completed, the results are recorded on a [UL Yellow Card](#) for that specific material. There are [six different ratings](#)

that UL can assign to a material.

SABIC uses the 'V' designation for their products that are UL rated. For example the [8010V](#) product is UL rated at all thicknesses. If you have any further questions regarding the UL rating system or if you need a UL rated material for your application please contact Tekra at 1-800-448-3572 or [click here](#) for more information!



Tekra Develops and Applies Custom Coatings

Tekra specializes in the development and application of specialized hard coats for plastic films in addition to distributing and converting films and adhesives. Tekra has two gravure coaters with 30' ovens which allow for both UV and thermally cured coatings to be applied. Tekra also has a slot die to allow for more consistent and controlled application of our coatings. Our Research and Development department is fully staffed with engineers and chemists that work with our customers, as well as with our sales and marketing

teams, to develop the specific coating for your application. Tekra has many proprietary coating formulations that can be manipulated to meet the customer's sometimes complex needs. Tekra works with many large OEMs, who have strict specifications for their products, to develop coatings for their unique needs. Some of our most common coatings are:

- Scratch and abrasion resistant
- [Anti-glare](#)
- [Anti-microbial](#)
- [Dry erase](#)
- [Print receptive](#)
- [Mattes](#)
- Anti-newton ring
- UV resistant



For more information on our coating capabilities or if you have a special coating request please contact Tekra at 1-800-448-3572 or [visit our website](#).

The Face of Functionality – Melinex® AF & AG3 Polyester

Tekra has been a value add distributor supporting the medical healthcare sector for decades. Our product reach now expands from substrates for diagnostic test strips, to medical adhesives & specialty tapes, to conductive biosensor compositions, and new, innovative anti-fog and anti-glare polyester films from DuPont Teijin Films™.

Melinex® AF2 – a clear, two side anti-fog coated polyester and; [Melinex® AG3](#) – a clear, two side anti-fog and anti-glare reducing polyester film, have unique coating chemistry that provides an enhanced functionality for extended wear for: eye and face protection for surgeons, doctors, dentists and other healthcare practitioners.

Tekra, A Division of EIS, Inc. supports the full breadth of plastic films, conductive inks, and specialty tapes & adhesive products, used across a wide sector of the [Medical Healthcare Industry](#).

For additional information, please click [here](#).

Planning For Year End Shipments

The Christmas and New Year's holidays fall on a Monday in 2017 and 2018. Scheduling of motor freight services in the last two weeks of the year has become increasingly difficult. Based on those prior issues, we will be targeting ship dates on or before Thursday, December 21st or after January 2nd in as many cases as possible. Our Customer Service team will work with you to plan shipments and to meet your service requirements. Tekra's Shipping Department will be open every day except Christmas and New Year's Day to meet any unplanned requirements, but we are hoping to take some of the stress out of year end with some advanced planning.



Reintroducing....DuPont Tyvek®

DuPont Tyvek® is spun bonded olefin which is made up of small (seven times finer than a human hair) polyethylene fibers randomly laid and compressed to form a remarkably tough material. One of the primary reasons Tyvek® is chosen in the printing industry is because of this durability. In addition, Tyvek® also has the benefits of being smooth, water resistant, breathable, dimensionally stable, highly opaque, and chemical, UV, mold and mildew resistant. Did you know that Tyvek® feels more natural than other synthetic films while only weighing half as much as paper?

Typical Tyvek® graphic applications include:

- Tags and Labels
- Envelopes
- Banners
- Wristbands
- Maps

By applying various finishing techniques, Tyvek® can also be customized to meet various market needs. Soft structure Tyvek®, which is more cloth like, is often used in protective apparel and car cover applications. [Tyvek® Brillion®](#) is an



enhanced version of Tyvek® that offers a brighter and smoother surface making it ideal for precise printing applications.

Tyvek® products intended for printing are corona treated to help improve ink and coating adhesion. And, unlike other substrates, this corona treatment lasts for more than twenty years! Tyvek® can be successfully printed via offset, flexography, screen, thermal transfer and gravure. Several styles of Tyvek® have third party certification for use on [HP Indigo](#) presses.

Tekra offers the entire line of DuPont Tyvek® for graphics with material ranging in thickness from 5.0 mils to 10.3 mils. Call us today to find out which style is right for your next printing job.

Conductive Inks – Force Sensing Resistors

Using inks to print sensors has been a proven method of electronics printing for some time. Force sensing resistors are used in devices that exhibit a decrease in resistance with an increase in force applied to the surface of the sensor.

Henkel Electronics offers a two component force sensing ink system that when blended to a desired ratio, offers different initial resistance and sensitivity profiles which remain stable during the use phase.

Conductive LOCTITE® ECI 7004HR and LOCTITE® ECI 7004LR, are blendable with non-conductive LOCTITE® NCI 7002



E&C to adjust resistance levels in the range of 50 till 500,000 ohms/sq/25µm. Targeted force sensing applications are wide reaching, from: medical, consumer electronics, musical, commercial and industrial end uses.

Key Benefits:

- Two component, blendable FSR ink system
- Permits required initial user resistance level
- Maintains desired values throughout use phase
- Matching high conductive silver components
- Complete force sensitive ink profile

Markets Served:

- Medical
- Consumer Electronics
- Musical Instruments
- Industrial
- Commercial

For additional information, please click [here](#).