

Quality control under pressure

Manufacturers in R&D, design and quality control can monitor consistent package integrity with the latest addition to US-based Sensor Product's range of tactile pressure-indicating sensor films.

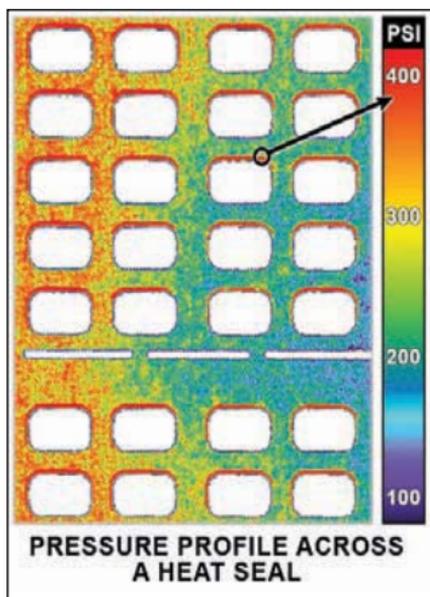
Pressurex Zero is a thin plastics film that is placed between any two contacting or mating surfaces to instantly measure and map pressure magnitude and distribution. Variations in contact surface pressure are visible by the impression made on the film, which instantaneously and permanently changes colour proportional to the actual pressure applied.

Packaging products and machinery that require pressure in the range of 7.2 to 28PSI (0.5-1.97 kg/cm²), as well as their sealants and adhesives, are candidates for Pressurex Zero.

Pressurex is available in eight different pressure ranges, with maximum contact pressure measurement extending to 43,200PSI (1,300-3,000kg/cm²).

US-based medical product manufacturer Boehringer Ingelheim uses Pressurex to ensure that the platen pressure of its thermoforming machine is sufficient to seal its pharmaceutical blister packs.

"Typically, we perform this test



every few weeks as a quality control measure, and whenever we introduce a new pharmaceutical product or a new toolset," said Boehringer Ingelheim's packaging development engineer, Jeffrey Klein.

The film is widely used to verify and record pressure distribution during equipment set-up, preventative maintenance and product changeover for various form-fill-seal, and CAP/MAP systems.

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