



**Worldwide Foam**  
A Jacobs & Thompson Company



# A BETTER WAY TO BUY CLOSED-CELL FOAMS

2024 EDITION

[www.worldwidefoam.com](http://www.worldwidefoam.com)

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# GET TO KNOW WORLDWIDE FOAM



## LARGEST INVENTORY. FASTEST TURNAROUND. WORLDWIDE.

Worldwide Foam is the leading closed cell foam manufacturer, providing customers with the products they need, when they need them. We offer the industry's shortest lead times on buns and sheets, as well as the widest range of sizes and densities available. Since 2008, we have expanded our product line and service capabilities to include XLPE rolls, extruded PE, pressure sensitive adhesives, and elastomeric foams. Whether you require raw buns, press-ready sheets, continuous rolls, or materials with adhesive backing, Worldwide Foam can support you.





# OUR COMMITMENT TO A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

At Worldwide Foam, we recognize that our business activities have an impact on the environment and society, and we are committed to sustainable business practices. We are dedicated to promoting economic growth while protecting the environment and improving the well-being of our stakeholders.



Figure 1: Foam shredder in Elkhart location



Figure 2: Recycled foam connecting pieces for playgrounds.

## Reduce

- We offer crosslinked polyethylene (XLPE) materials in a wide variety of sizes for customers to choose from. Customers have the flexibility to choose the best yielding size to maximize their profitability and minimize production scraps.
- The Looping process allows us to create custom length rolls, which increases our customers' production throughput and decreases material waste.
- High precision heat laminators and pressure sensitive laminators are used to achieve better edge alignment, which translates to more usable materials and less material waste
- Silao, Mexico warehouse incorporated our first skylight building to reduce energy consumption by utilizing nature light to illuminate the workspace. The rest of our warehouse buildings are planned to follow suit in the future.
- All WF warehouse buildings are equipped with motion sensor activated lights to reduce unnecessary energy waste.

## Reuse

- Laminate falloff foam sheets to create usable buns
- Our customers repurpose XLPE skins as sacrificial materials to minimize the effects of splash back
- In house pallet repair shop to fix and reuse old pallets

## Recycle

- Recycle XLPE trim and end-of-life components from our customers to be repurposed
- Scrap collection hubs in Indiana and Georgia locations
- Foam shredder in our Indiana facility to increase the efficiency of our recycling process
- Materials with recycled content available

**We believe that these efforts will not only help to protect the planet but will also create long-term value for our customers.**

# POLYOLEFIN FOAM

## CROSS-LINKED POLYETHYLENE & ETHYLENE-VINYL ACETATE BUNS

Cross-linked polyethylene (XLPE) and Ethylene-Vinyl Acetate (EVA) foams are fine-celled, chemically cross-linked materials with a micro-cellular structure. This gives them a smooth surface, great shock absorption, and chemical resistance. They are also closed-cell foams, which means they are water-resistant and have excellent thermal insulation properties.

XLPE and EVA foams are used in a wide range of applications, including:

- **Impact damping:** To protect delicate items from shock and vibration.
- **Protective packaging:** To protect products during shipping and storage.
- **Gaskets:** To create effective seals between surfaces to absorb and reduce vibration (NVH).
- **Thermal insulation:** To insulate pipes, ducts, and other surfaces from heat loss or gain.

Worldwide Foam offers a wide array of XLPE and EVA buns in a variety of densities and sizes to meet your specific needs. Our buns are FMVSS-302 compliant and RoHS compliant.



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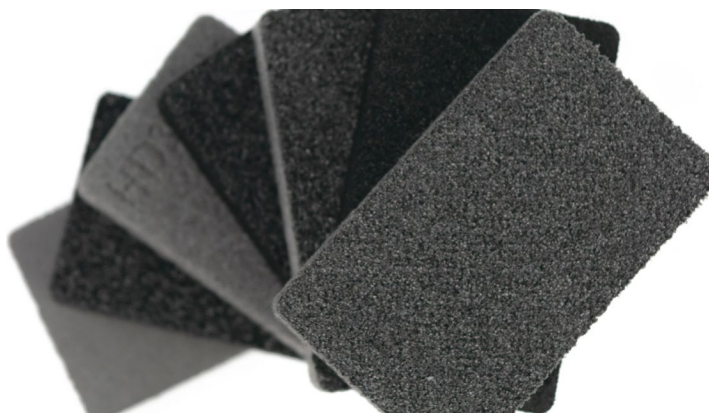


Figure 3: Polyolefin foam samples

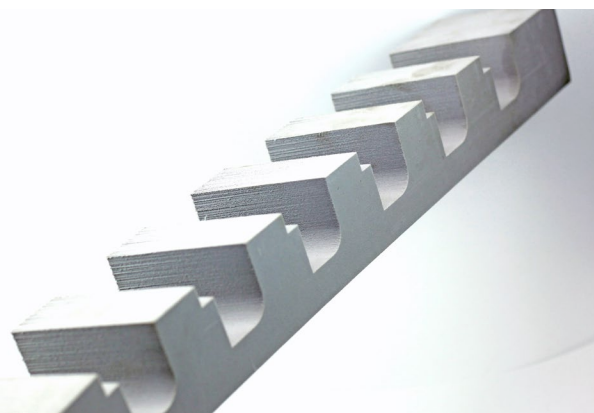


Figure 4: Polyolefin foam applications sample

# POLYOLEFIN FOAM

## IRRADIATED & CHEMICALLY XLPE ROLLS



Figure 5: Irradiated crosslinked (XI)



Figure 6: Chemically crosslinked (XE)

Irradiated Crosslinked (XI) is crosslinked through irradiation. This method produces foam that is smoother and with smaller cells. It is more expensive than chemically crosslinked foam rolls. Chemically crosslinked polyethylene (XE) is crosslinked exactly how it sounds, by a chemical foaming agent (CFA). This produces foam that has slightly coarser cells and a bumpier surface, but provide more cost-effective solutions for your projects.

**Irradiated crosslinked (XI)** foam roll is crosslinked through electron irradiation. This method produces foam that is smoother and has smaller cells than chemically crosslinked foam. It is also more expensive, but it offers superior performance in terms of chemical resistance, temperature tolerance, and durability.

**Chemically crosslinked (XE)** foam roll is crosslinked using a chemical foaming agent (CFA). This produces foam that has slightly coarser cells and a bumpier surface than XI foam, but it is also more cost-effective. XE foam is a good choice for applications where performance is not as critical as cost.

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## REDUCE RISK OF ESD DAMAGE



Worldwide Foam offers various ESD (Electrostatic discharge) materials designed to prevent damage from static electricity, impact damage during transport and keep the materials clean and free of contaminants. Our ESD materials offer a high surface resistance ranging from  $10^3$  to  $10^{12}$  ohms and density ranging from 2-6lbs/ft<sup>3</sup>. They are used in a variety of applications, including electronic packaging and shielding, EMI gaskets, and thermal management systems. These sustainable and cost-effective options can be reused multiple times.

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# ELASTOMERICS

## EXCEPTIONAL PROPERTIES AND DIVERSE APPLICATIONS

Worldwide Foam stocks a wide variety of closed-cell elastomeric foams, in bun and roll formats, for a variety of industries. We offer one of the most diverse selections of OEM foam products in the industry.

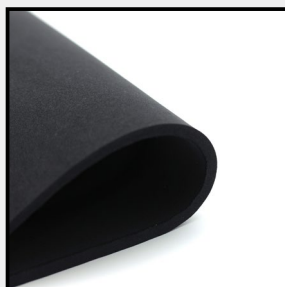
**We continued to grow to meet the ever-changing market demands.**

Our elastomeric materials include neoprene, PVC, PVC/NBR/CR, nitrile, EPDM, and sulfur-free EPDM.

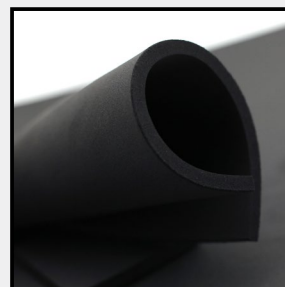
Our elastomeric materials include



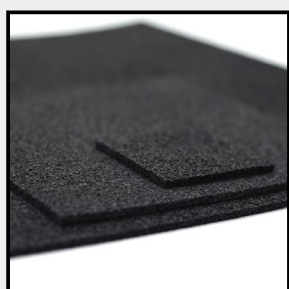
**NEOPRENE**



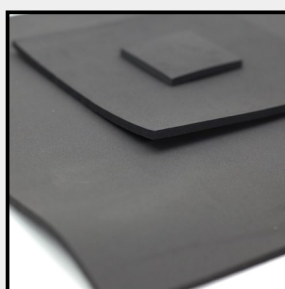
**PVC**



**PVC/NBR/CR**



**NITRILE**



**EPDM**



**SULFUR-FREE  
EPDM**

**We can supply these materials in both sheets and continuous rolls to meet your specific needs and maximize your production throughput.**

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# PREMIER SUPPLIERS

In 2017, Worldwide Foam became the first and only Zotefoams Platinum Distributor in North America. Zotefoams is a leading manufacturer of crosslinked polyethylene block foams, which are widely used in a variety of industries, including aerospace, automotive, electronics, and medical.



Figure 7: Zotefoams® Plastazote samples

This partnership allows Worldwide Foam to provide customers with a wide range of Zotefoams products that are readily available, low VOCs, and chemical-free. Worldwide Foam's warehouses keep stock of over 27 Zotefoams products, ensuring customers can quickly receive the materials they need.

In 2023, We became the largest Zotefoams Azote distributor in the world.

## **WZ Exclusive product line. Only at Worldwide Foam**

Using Zotefoams' proprietary manufacturing process, we developed the WZ product line exclusively to Worldwide Foam. The WZ retains several benefits found in the Azote series such as lowest Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs), consistent cell structure and density, moldability, vibrant colors, and superior performance at a lighter weight. With Fabricators' requirements in mind, it comes in a better yielding bun size and a lower cost.

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Figure 8: Sealed Air® PE foam

## **Worldwide Foam is a Preferred Distributor of Sealed Air® PE in North America.**

We carry ETHAFOAM® and STRATOCELL® polyethylene foam products. ETHAFOAM® is a high-performance, extruded, closed-cell polyethylene foam designed to meet the shipping, storage, and handling requirements for industrial and military applications. STRATOCELL® is a heat-laminated polyethylene plank that provides cost efficiency and outstanding protection for a wide range of packaging and non-packaging applications.

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# PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVES

## PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVES

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Pressure-sensitive adhesive (PSA) tapes can bond to a variety of materials, including foam, rubber, painted and standard metal finishes, a range of plastics, and other low surface energy substrates. Worldwide Foam carries a wide variety of PSA options, including rubber, butyl, and acrylic-based tapes. We can either apply PSA to our materials or sell PSA tapes separately.



Figure 9: Pressure sensitive adhesive sample



Figure 10: Butyl PSA sample

## PLASTIC CORRUGATED SHEET

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First introduced in 2023, our plastic corrugated sheet product line is designed to offer our customers a cost saving source of packaging materials. This versatile material is widely used in reusable containers, packaging, commercial signs, and more. It's lightweight, durable, and economical, making it an excellent choice for a variety of applications.

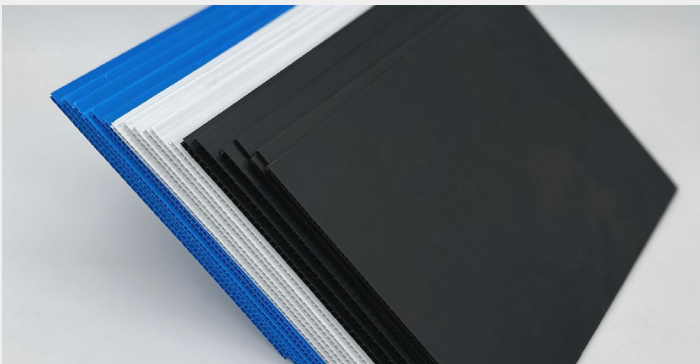


Figure 11: PCORR sample



Figure 12: PCORR application sample



# ADD ON SERVICES



Figure 13: Roller skiving in process

## ROLLER SPLITTING / SKIVING

Roller splitting/skiving compresses material between two rollers and pushes it through a fixed, ultra-sharp blade. This process can process large quantities of material quickly and handle high-density materials.

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## VACUUM TABLE SKIVING

Vacuum table skiving is a process that uses air suction to hold material flat on a table while it is passed through an ultra-sharp blade. This process is typically used for thinner gauges (up to 4 lbs) and can produce very precise cuts.

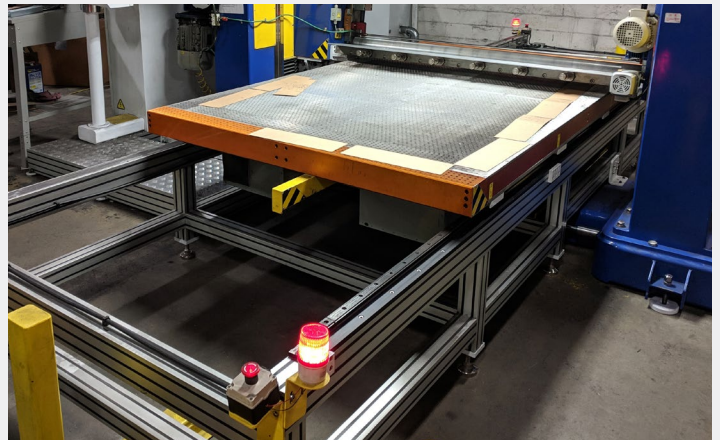


Figure 14: Vacuum skiving in process

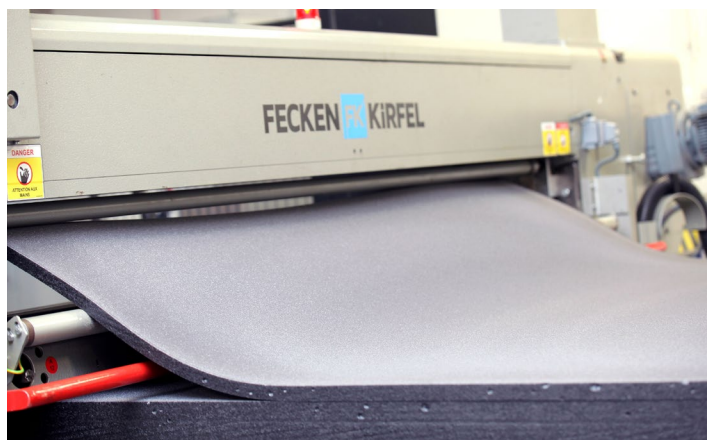


Figure 15: Looping in process

## LOOPING

We operate the industry's largest piece of splitting equipment, an 86" wide F&K Loop splitter. This state-of-the-art machine skives custom roll thicknesses and lengths to meet your specific needs. Compared to conventional loopers, our machine can create longer rolls, making us the leading supplier of master rolls in the industry. Longer rolls result in lower costs, faster speeds, and improved sales dollars per hour worked.

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# ADD ON SERVICES CONT.



Figure 16: Heat laminator

## HEAT LAMINATION

Worldwide Foam offers heat lamination services in Indiana, California, and Silao, Mexico. This process uses a heated blade to melt the surface of foam, creating a tacky substance that acts as an adhesive and creates a permanent bond. It is more cost-effective and performs better than glue or adhesive, and allows us to combine different materials, densities, and colors to create multi-layer composite sheets.

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## HOT AIR LAMINATION

Our Indiana facility features a hot air laminator that bonds low-density crosslinked polyethylene foams together using evenly distributed heated air. This precise process creates a consistent surface bond, superior to hot blade or flame lamination. Computer-controlled rollers achieve better edge alignment, resulting in quicker uptime and more usable materials.



Figure 17: Hot air laminator



Figure 18: PSA lamination in process

## PRESSURE SENSITIVE ADHESIVE LAMINATION

Worldwide Foam offers a wide range of pressure-sensitive adhesives (PSA) to meet the needs of a variety of applications. We can laminate PSAs onto foam sheets and rolls, or supply the adhesive on its own. We currently offer PSA application services at our facilities in Elkhart, Indiana, Wurtland, Kentucky, Atlanta, Georgia, Ontario, California and Silao, Mexico.

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# ADD ON SERVICES CONT.

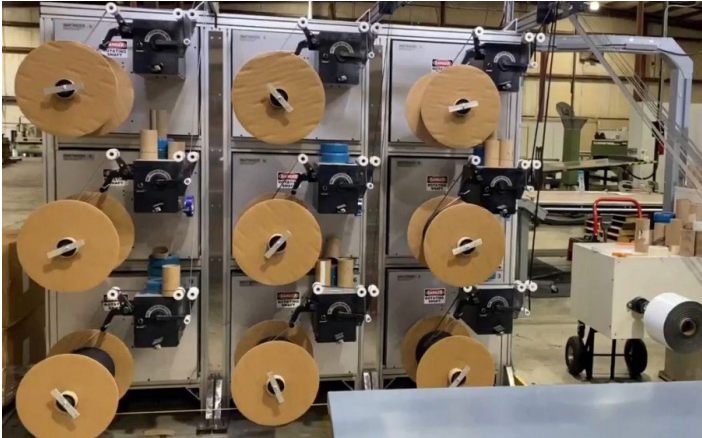


Figure 19: Level wound spooling in process

## LEVEL WOUND SPOOLING SERVICE

Worldwide Foam offers level wound spooling services in Wurtland, KY. This state-of-the-art production line can transform master rolls of materials into customized prole shapes, at varying widths and continuous lengths. Our new spooler is dedicated to serving material converting customers across North America. Please contact us today to learn more about how we can transform your materials.

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## SINGLE SHAFT LATHE SLITTER

The single shaft lathe slitting process involves feeding roll goods through a single rotating saw blade that slits the materials into smaller width rolls. This allows us to produce a wide variety of adhesive and non-adhesive tapes, including XLPE, EPDM, Neoprene, and NBR foams.

We are capable of slitting master rolls into narrower rolls ranging from 0.07" to 62" in width, with a maximum outside diameter of 24". The maximum and minimum width we can process would depend on the materials and roll diameter.

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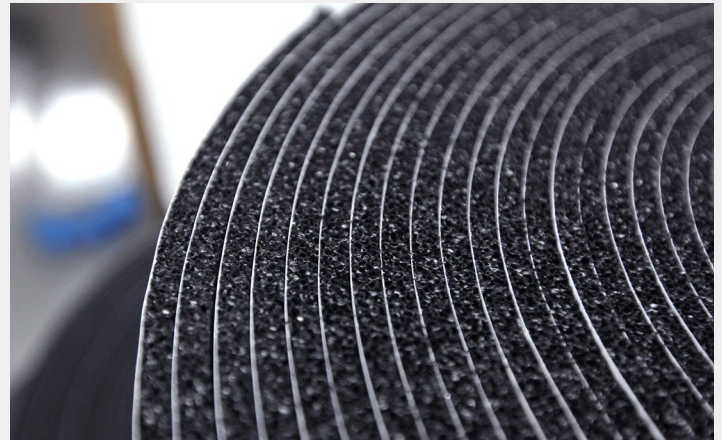


Figure 20: Slit roll sample

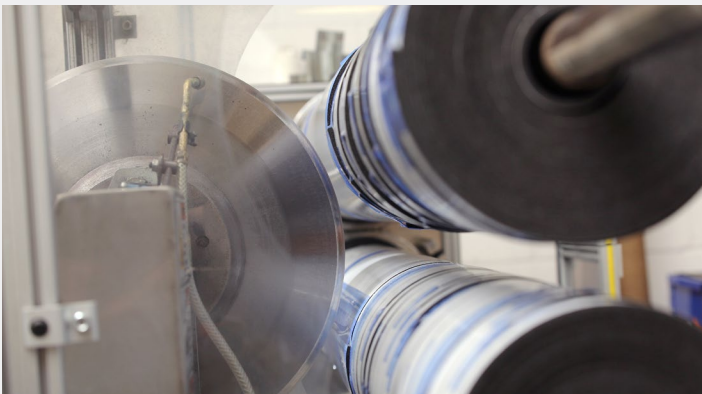


Figure 21: Roll slitting in process



Figure 22: Slit roll samples

# MEET THE TEAM



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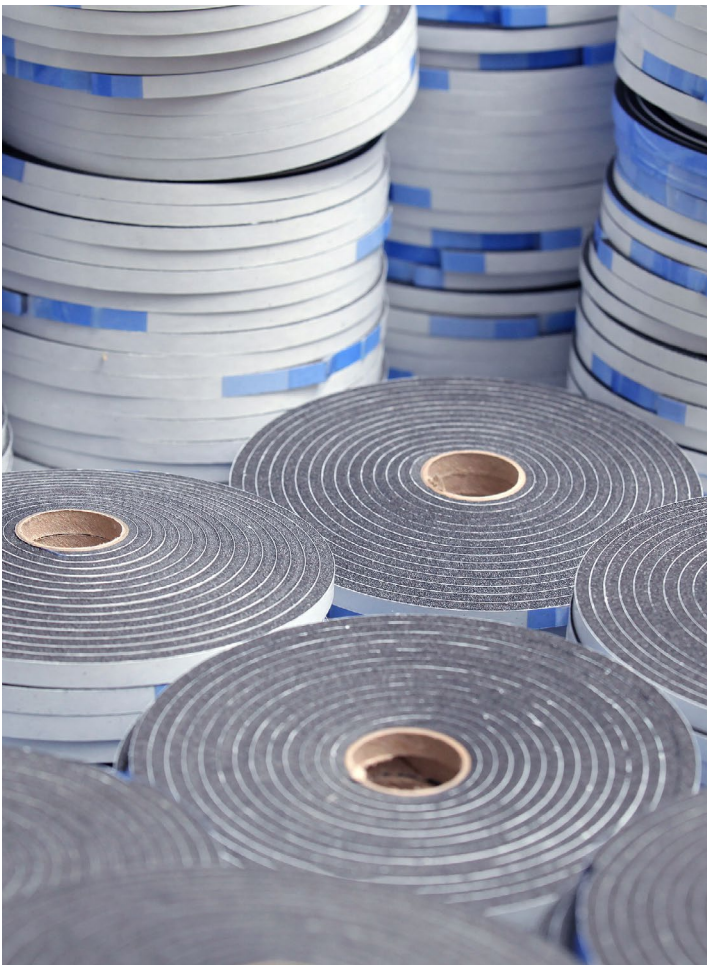


**STACEY MCKEE**

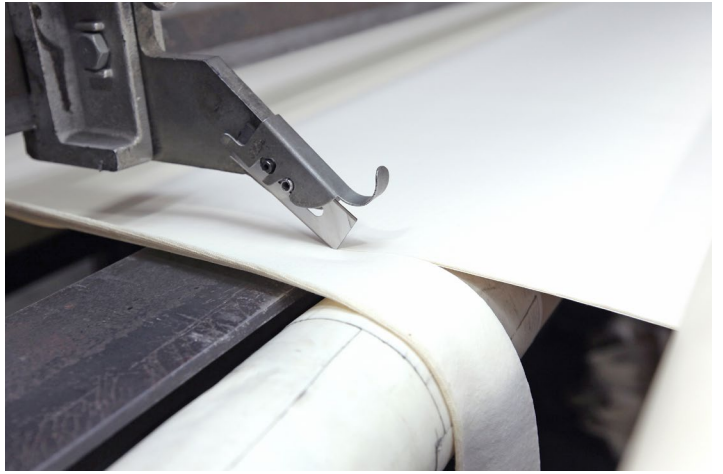
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