





Product Guide

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Metal Doctor Blades



White (CX)*

The most common carbon steel blade material is high quality steel with economical life and excellent metallurgical properties. CX has a bright, polished metallic appearance and can be used in all gravure and flexo doctoring and containment applications.



Blue (CB)*

This is CX material with a blue oxide layer that helps to identify the beveled edge. CB can be used everywhere CX is used.



Silver (CSV)*

A carbonsteel blade material with enhanced chemical composition to provide a microstructure with more and finer carbides compared to CX material. The result is better wear resistance, leading to longer blade life. CSV also has higher levels of chromium, which enhance corrosion resistance when used with water-based inks. CSV has a bright, polished metallic appearance and can be used in all gravure and flexo doctoring and containment applications.



Stainless (SS)*

All of the quality properties of CX material, with the added corrosion resistance of stainless steel, are needed for certain applications. SS has a bright, polished metallic appearance and can be used in all gravure and flexo doctoring and containment applications.



Gold (QRE)*

Special optimized tool steel metallurgy with very long life that is excellent for abrasive inks. QRE is proven to last at least 5 to 10 times longer than CX material and can help reduce spitting problems with UV inks. QRE material can also help reduce roll scoring issues because, as it normally wears, it produces smaller particles than other materials that can easily be flushed away from the blade instead of getting trapped between the blade and cylinder. QRE has a gold metallic appearance and is mainly used in flexo doctoring applications, but can also be used for containment blades with ceramic or chrome anilox rolls. Gravure customers with very long-run jobs or high-wear applications can also benefit from using this material.

Not all bevels are available with all material thicknesses. Call Allison Systems for guidance with selecting the correct product for your application.

Metal Doctor Blades



White Plus (CXP4)*

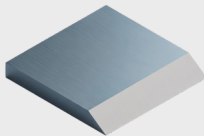
White carbon steel material, CX, with a precision low-friction metallic coating for difficult Flexo and Gravure doctoring applications. This material is not recommended to be used in Flexo containment applications. CXP4 is beneficial when running chrome gravure cylinders with minimal engraving since the coating helps to provide lubrication between the blade and cylinder and reduce haze and streaking issues. The coating will also provide corrosion resistance when used with water-based inks.



Gold Plus (QREP)*

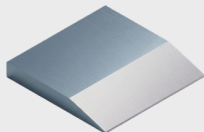
Special tool steel metallurgy with very long life, QRE, and a precision, low-friction metallic coating for difficult Flexo and Gravure applications. This material is not recommended to be used in Flexo containment applications. QREP is beneficial when running chrome gravure cylinders with minimal engraving since the coating helps to provide lubrication between the blade and cylinder and reduce haze and streaking issues. The coating will also provide corrosion resistance when used with water-based inks.

EDGE SHAPES:



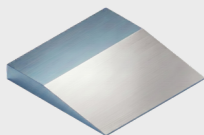
Standard (STD)*

A beveled edge shape with a nominal 15° bevel angle. Some inks or cylinder conditions require a more rigid tip for maximum cylinder clean-up than the Standard bevel provides. The thin initial tip of the Standard bevel will provide quick startups and work well for short-run work.



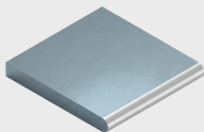
Superhoned (SUP)®*

A beveled edge shape with a nominal 4.5° bevel angle. The long bevel provides effective tip deflection and contact angle control under applied blade loading forces with minimal tip growth as the blade wears.



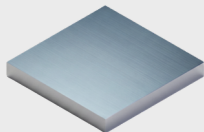
Superhoned Plus (SUS)®*

A beveled edge shape with a nominal 2.2° bevel angle. The very long bevel provides the same force control features of the Superhoned shape with even less tip growth as the blade wears.



Rounded (RND)*

A rounded-edge blade offers a strong, rigid, precision-polished working edge that is not easily damaged at an economical price. The rounded edge shape is suitable for lower screen ceramic anilox rolls (generally <500 lpi), very abrasive inks, or where maximum anilox clean-up is not required. Rounded-edge blades are typically not recommended for gravure applications.



Unhoned (UNH)‡

An unhoned blade has a square edge and is typically used only for backer blade applications.

Plastic & Composite Doctor Blades



Fiberglass (FR)†

A composite material made from fiberglass for flexo doctor and containment blades on ceramic anilox rolls and abrasive inks. FR provides a longer life than carbon steel metal blades with good metering quality. FR is best used with ceramic anilox rolls with <500 LPI screens.



Fiberglass Plus (FRS)†

A composite material made from fine weave fiberglass for flexo doctor and containment blades on ceramic anilox rolls and abrasive inks. FRS provides all the features of FR with improved metering quality approaching that of metal blades. FRS can be used with any ceramic anilox.



Graphite (GR)†

A composite fiber glass material with added graphite lubricant to extend blade life. For flexo doctor and containment blades on larger ceramic anilox rolls, long runs, and abrasive inks. GR is commonly used for higher-end graphics in corrugated applications.



Mylar (MY)/Polyester (PY)†

MY/PY is a good choice for flexo containment blade applications since it can reduce back doctoring and allow debris to pass by the blade instead of trapping the debris behind the blade like metal blades can. To further allow debris to pass by the blade, use a blade width that is 1/16" to 1/8" wider than the doctoring blade.



Nylon Plus (NY)‡

NY can be used in special gravure applications that do not require the wipe quality of a metal blade. The lubricant in NY can help extend the life of chrome cylinders.

Not all bevels are available with all material thicknesses. Call Allison Systems for guidance with selecting the correct product for your application.

Plastic & Composite Doctor Blades



Delrin (DE)†

DE can be used in flexo doctor and containment applications that require moderate metering quality. DE provides longer life than carbon steel metal blades and can reduce cut hazards associated with metal blades in chambered applications.



UHMW (PE)†

PE can be used in corrugated and flexo doctoring applications that have coarse anilox rolls and do not require the wipe quality of a metal blade, as well as flexo containment blades. Since PE material is soft, use with caution because there is a risk of particle embedment that could lead to roll damage.

EDGE SHAPES:



Standard (STD) / Plastic Bevel (P###)*

(### would be the nominal bevel. Ex: 30° bevel angle = P30)

A plastic beveled edge shape with a nominal 20° - 55° bevel angle depending on material. Provides good tip support and wiping characteristics.



Composite 15° (C15)†

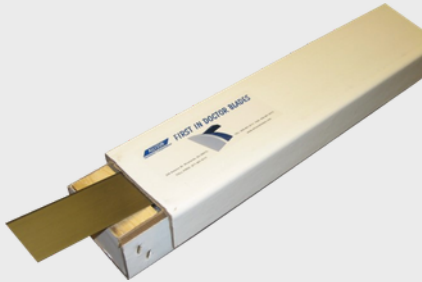
A composite material beveled edge shape with a nominal 15° bevel angle. Long bevel profile can help reduce ink leakage past the flexo chamber end seals.



Unhoned (UNH)†

An unhoned plastic blade has a square edge and is typically used for flexo chamber containment blade applications and limited use as flexo doctor blades on low-line screen corrugated anilox rolls.

Doctor Blade Packaging



Tray (TRA)

Trays are the most economical method of packaging multiple blades and backers that are 100" long or less, and makes blades safely and easily accessible for most applications. Trays are available for all materials.



Dispenser Box (BOX)

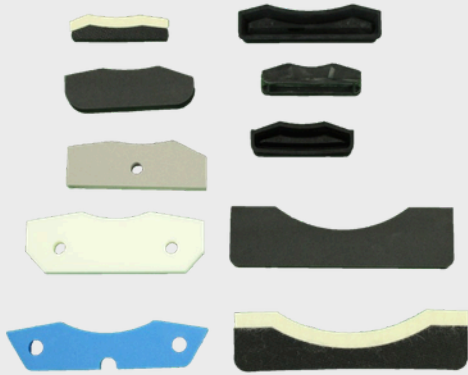
Dispenser Boxes are available for individual, cut-to-length blades and backers. Dispenser Boxes allow for easy installation of the blade to the blade holder. Dispenser Boxes are available for all steel and select plastic materials. Check for availability on size and quantity restrictions.



Coil Dispenser Box (CBX)

Coil Dispenser Boxes are available for continuous coil lengths or smaller pre-cut blades taped end-to-end. Coil Boxes are available for all materials. Check for availability on size and quantity restrictions.

Accessories



End Seals

Allison Systems Corporation can provide a varied selection of end seals, from OEM replacements to custom work.

- Parts are cut from CAD-driven cutting equipment, allowing for design repeatability, easy customization, and cost effectiveness.
- Not die cut, as the compression needed can cause warpage, concave edges, and chamber leakage.
- Most end seal designs can be replicated, with quick turnarounds.
- Variety of designs and materials, such as foam, rubber, felt, and composite.



Seal Strip Tapes

Allison Systems has seal strip tapes to keep your doctor blade chambers running at peak efficiency.

- Allison Seal Strip Tapes help prevent ink from flowing back into the chamber.
- Adhere SAPE directly on the underside of the blade, opposite the working edge, and secure the blade into the chamber.



Blade Edge Guards

When blades are in your holders or chambers, put the Allison Blade Edge Guard on to help protect the blade edge from damage and your employees from cuts.

- Allison Blade Edge Guards reduce the risk of blade damage when multiple chambers or holders are prepared ahead of time.
- Allison Blade Edge Guards can help protect employees from cuts when storing or working with a chamber or holder off-press.

Cleaning Solutions



Engraved Roll Cleaning Brushes

Allison Systems has brushes to help keep your engraved roll or printing plate clean and running efficiently.

- Allison Brushes are comfortable in your hand and have a wood or plastic block grip. Both blocks come with either stainless steel, brass wire, or horse hair bristles. Both metal bristles are available in extra fine, if desired.
- Natural materials like horse hair are considered antistatic and essentially remain electrically neutral when used only in a liquid environment.
- All brushes are designed to be used with any cleaning solution for both Flexo and Gravure applications.

Cleaning Solutions

Allison Systems offers many cleaners for general press clean-up and roll cleaning. Contact us if you would like more information.

- **Real Clean:** A translucent amber, liquid, alkaline cleaning solution formulated to remove dried inks from varied surfaces on contact. Real Clean is recommended for use with UV inks and coatings.
- **Deep Clean:** A green, liquid, alkaline cleaning solution formulated to remove dried inks from varied surfaces on contact. Deep Clean is recommended for use with Water-Based inks and coatings.
- **Plate Clean:** A translucent green, liquid, alkaline cleaning solution formulated to remove dried inks from printing plates on contact. Plate Clean is recommended for use with Water-Based inks.
- All liquid cleaners are water-soluble and contain lubricants & rust inhibitors, and are safe to use on chrome and ceramic-engraved rolls and rubber rollers.
- **Venom II and Viper:** Colored, powder, alkaline cleaning solution formulated to remove dried inks from varied surfaces on contact. Venom II is green and designed for Water-Based inks and coatings. Viper is purple and is designed for UV inks and coatings.
- **Eliminator:** A clear, liquid, highly concentrated, and technically advanced cleaning solution formulated to remove dried inks from ceramic and chrome-engraved rolls. Eliminator is specially designed to clean and condition ceramic and chrome-engraved rolls. Eliminator is designed to be applied using the E-Razor applicator sponge. This solution can be irritating and should be handled with safety glasses and gloves at all times during application.