

## White Paper: Adhesive selection: a race against the clock?

One of our recently published White Papers discusses time-based considerations when specifying adhesives for any application. Not only are you looking for an adhesive that bonds well to your required substrates, but one which also meets the functional requirements of its application. In addition to these, there are also time-based considerations to factor in. Read [\*\*Adhesive selection: a race against the clock?\*\*](#) to get the full picture.

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# White Paper: Adhesive selection: a race against the clock?

## White Paper



### Adhesive selection: a race against the clock?

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#### Introduction

There are numerous considerations when specifying adhesives for any application. Not only are manufacturers looking for an adhesive that bonds well to their required substrates, but one which also meets the functional requirements of its application. In addition to these, there are also time-based considerations to factor in.

#### Shelf Life

The shelf life of an adhesive is the length of time from the date of manufacture during which the material is under warranty to behave according to the technical data sheet, assuming the storage conditions have been met. It often appears on the label as the expiry date – referring to the date that the shelf life ends – or as a manufactured date, where you determine the shelf life and then calculate the expiry date.

An adhesive that remains unused in the original packaging and has been stored under recommended conditions may begin to see negative effects when beyond the shelf life. The effects can be nearly immediate or be part of a slow decay in performance. Changes in the adhesive may include longer cure time, failure to cure, gelling in the package, changes in viscosity, syneresis/separation, or a decrease in performance. After the expiry of shelf life, any manufacturer's warranty is usually invalid, so the user must assume all liability for employing the product.



Figure 1 – Adhesives are clearly labelled with expiry or production dates for easy reference

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