



**Global Tape Test Methods Committee
May 1, 2014 - Nashville, TN DRAFT (6/4/2014)**

Attendees – Representatives from: (see attached list of attendees)

AFERA, the European Assn. for the Self-Adhesive Tape
CATIA – China Adhesive Tape Industry Association
JATMA: Japan Adhesive Tapes Maker's Association
TAAT – Taiwan Regional Association of Adhesive Tape Manufacturers
PSTC – Pressure Sensitive Tape Council

PSTC Test Methods Committee (see attached list of attendees)

Staff:

Pat Farrey, Killen Corporation
Michelle Miller, PSTC
Astrid Lejeune, AFERA

Guest:

Ron Jacobs, PSTC Director

Co- Chairmen Karan Malhotra' and Christophe Questers welcomed all the participants to the GTMC 2014 Meeting.

This meeting was held in conjunction with the PSTC Test methods Committee meeting.

The Agendas for both meetings are listed below:

GTMC:

Harmonization of Test Methods

- a. *Presentation of current test methods harmonization status by each association*
- b. *Finalize Thickness test method and Width & Length test method*
 - i. *Both methods were foreseen for ISO*
 - ii. *Should be finalized for global GTF test method*
- c. *PSTC SAFT test method:*
 - i. *Discuss Afera RR test results*
 - ii. *Get agreement from other associations*
 - iii. *Prepare for GTF test method*

2. New Harmonized Test Methods

a. Development of Loop Tack test method.

i. Afera has the lead as agreed by others.

ii. Discuss with JATMA

b. Discuss draft from Afera if available

i. Include Afera TC discussions

3. Proposal of new test methods for harmonisation

4. ISO Approach

a. Discuss opinions on harmonized GTF test methods vs. harmonized ISO test methods

5. Conclusion

PSTC Test Methods Committee:

Chairman Mark Byrne

1. Launch of *Test Methods 16th Edition*

2. Test Method Reliability

3. Other/Conclusion

Minutes from the GTMC November 2012 meeting were approved.

Introductions from each of the respective groups were exchanged. The objectives of the GTMC were reviewed and agreed upon.

Harmonization of Test Methods

All participants agreed that the path forward for harmonization was to set up global test methods by mutual agreement of the trade organizations.

It was also proposed that the standards will have the title starting with GTF, followed by the number of the test method. For example “GTF 001 –Globally Harmonized Test Method for Peel Adhesion.”

All participants agreed that the ISO harmonized standards for peel adhesion (ISO29862:2007); for static shear (ISO29863:2007) and for Breaking Strength and Elongation (ISO 29864:2007) are to be used as the model for the first three Global Tape Forum test methods. PSTC and AFERA already have test methods that conform to these ISO standards.

It was agreed that the fourth test method to be globally harmonized would be the test method to measure thickness. Discussions were held on the test method for width and length. It was decided that the proposed document presented by AFERA and PSTC is not a test method but a guideline for tolerances or ranges for the measurement. All participants agreed that the review should focus on the measurement technique rather than on tolerances. As such it was decided that further discussions are needed and not to go ahead with harmonization of the width and length test method at this time.

1) Test Method will be split and tolerances will be a separate sheet noted as guideline – 2) each Counterpart will review the actual method once more and notifies Kiran and the full group whether one is in agreement with the content of the method 3) each Counterpart discusses internally what acceptable tolerances are for their organization.

AFERA presented the status of its round robin test for SAFT that is based on the PSTC 17 SAFT test method. AFERA will finalize the results and present them at the next AFERA meeting in Croatia in October. TAAT stated that it will conduct testing with representative samples from tapes manufactured in Taiwan. All agreed that the SAFT test method is a candidate for global harmonization.

AFERA has taken the lead to develop a reliable loop tack test method for measurement of tack. PSTC, TAAT and CATIA have agreed that loop tack would be a candidate for harmonization. CATIA has already incorporated loop tack into its national standards. JATMA has some reservations because it believes that peel adhesion could be used as an alternate for tack. However, it will await the results of the round robin testing being conducted by AFERA. JATMA was asked to present its proposals for a test method to measure tack.

A process needs to be set up to make a proposal for harmonization of a test method. PSTC has a process that it will share with the other organizations. Discussion continued regarding the need for a consistent harmonized process whereby all parties are in agreement. Upon identifying harmonized test methods, an additional segment of the process should be developed in regards to acceptance and the awareness to the overall industry. For example the November 2012 GTMC minutes includes a suggestion that unwind force from a roll of tape be considered for harmonization. In future there may be other test methods that may be candidates for harmonization.

PSTC presented its proposal for Measurement Uncertainty using the data collected for SAFT testing to develop a statistical model. All participants thought that this was a good approach for other test methods as well. The PSTC Test Methods Committee has an objective to develop such measurements for other test methods as well. This Test Method reliability measurement can be used by technical people in labs but also it is beneficial to sales and commercial departments when they talk to their customers.

CATIA's proposal included collaboration on the Classification of Tape Categories. Discussion held whether we could do something together. China developed their standard; key-question was from their end whether each Counterpart was willing to develop such a classification. It was asked whether the document shown by CATIA of 25 pages could be translated in English.

A copy of the PSTC analysis for SAFT will be sent separately to all organizations. .

The meeting was adjourned.