

GTMC Meeting Minutes

Date: 19 November 2012 Time: 14.00 – 17.00

Venue: Grand Hyatt Hotel,
Taipei, Taiwan

Present: See attached Delegation Attendee (**Attachment: Delegation Participation 2012**)
Chairman: Lutz Jacob, Afera Technical Consultant and Chairman Global Test Method Committee
Secretary: A. Lejeune, Afera Secretary-General
Date of Next Meeting: Hosted by PSTC in conjunction with its annual meeting in Nashville, U.S.A., May 2014.

Agenda – Session:

1. Opening/Agenda/Review of GTMC Action List October 6, 2010
2. Harmonisation of Test Methods
3. Status New Rolling Ball Tack Test Methods
4. Harmonization (development) of additional Test Methods
5. Discussion on future approach towards ISO
6. Additional Business
7. Date and Location of Next GTF and GTMC Meeting.

1. Welcome, Agenda, Review Action list October 2010

Chairman Lutz Jacob welcomed everyone present to the Global Test Method Committee Meeting and quickly ran over the Agenda and Actionlist.

2. Harmonisation of Key PSA Industry Test Methods

Chairman Lutz Jacob presented the status of tape harmonization.

July 2007

The ISO harmonized standards for peel adhesion (ISO29862:2007) for static shear (ISO29863:2007) and for Breaking Strength and Elongation (ISO29864:2007) have been incorporated into national standards by CEN (Europe); and by industry groups Afera, JATMA and PSTC. China will incorporate into its national standard by 2014 and Taiwan by 2013.

August 2010

The 3 ISO Test Methods have passed their first review after 3 years by the ISO/TC61/SC11 and have been confirmed unaltered for a 5 years period.

October 2011 Proposed Test Methods for ISO Approval

Thickness Test Method and Width and Length Test Methods were approved by all counterparts but still needs approval from JATMA.

Overview TM Matrix:

	Peel Adhesion	Static Shear	Breaking Strength and Elongation	Thickness
CEN	EN1939:2003	EN1943:2002	EN14410:2003	EN1942:2003
Afera	5001	5012	5004	5006
ASTM	D-3330M-02	D-3654M-02	D-3759M	D-3652M-1
PSTC	101	107	131	133
JATMA	JIS-Z-0237 clause 10	JIS-Z-0237 clause 13	JIS-Z-0237 clause 8	
ISO	29862:2007	29863:2007	29864:2007	/

The ASTM methods are different to the ISO methods, all other methods mentioned in the matrix are the same as those ISO approved.

The full Thickness Method was presented on the screen (**Attachment: Afera 5006-PSTC 133 Thickness Test Method (EN 1942-2008)**). Most important section of the method is 5. Apparatus 5.1.1 and 5.1.2. It was agreed that at a later stage in this meeting we should agree on how to bring this method to either ISO or to use another proposed methodology to get it standardized.

JATMA had some comments on the Width & Length TM and will come back within approximately 3 months with the results from the JATMA discussions. It will be a new TM for CATIA and TAAT who confirmed at today's meeting to take over the TM in its finalised stage.

3. Status New Rolling Ball Tack Test Method

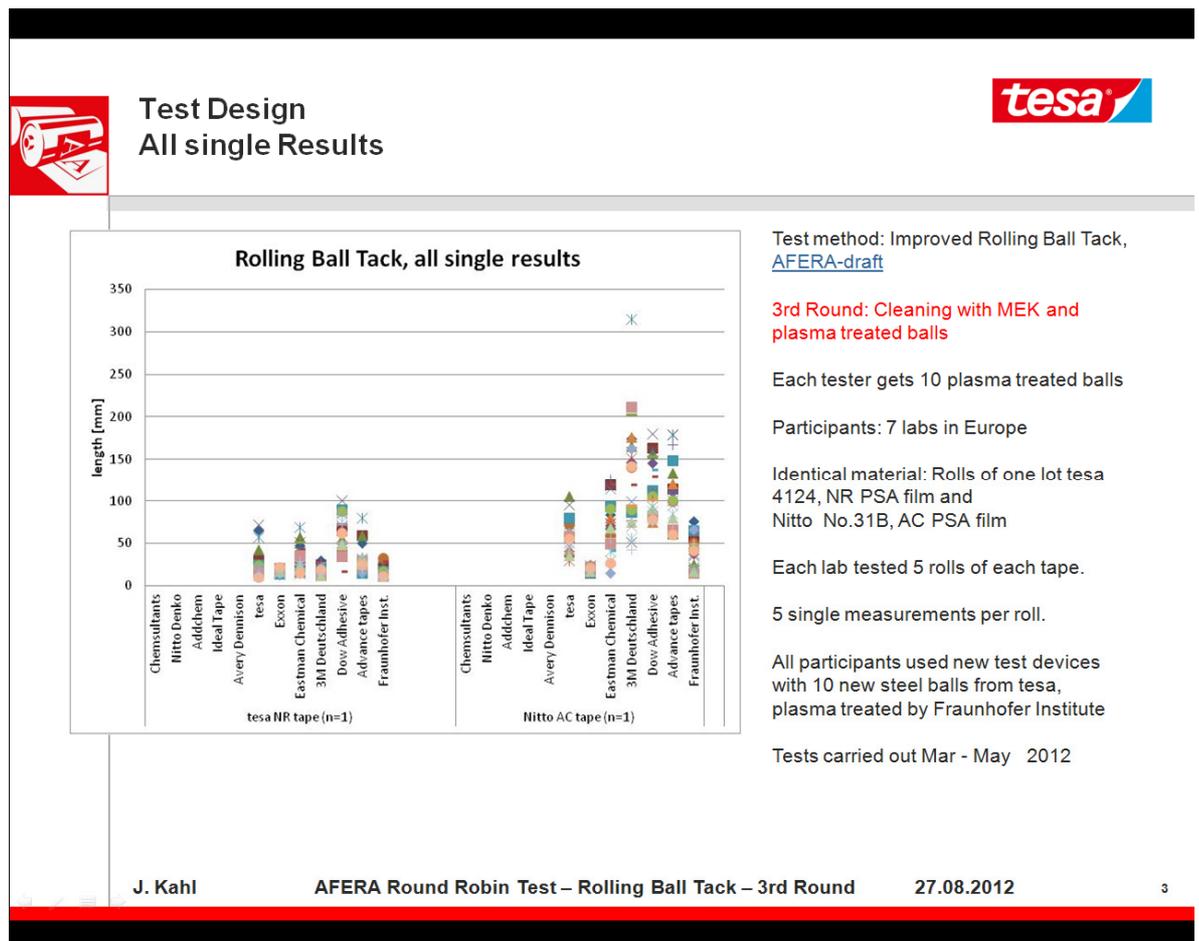
Chairman Lutz Jacob presented the work done by Afera on rolling ball tack. Based on the PSTC-6 Rolling Ball Test Method (TM), which is being used by almost all European Tape producers for internal quality control, Afera decided to improve this method to arrive at a version which could be globally harmonised.

All known weak points were removed and replaced by what was believed would improve the reliability of the method. As a second step, five companies which agreed to participate in a Round Robin testing series received new equipment and steel balls, all from the same source.

The results of the first test were disappointing, and it was discovered that the key is the cleaning of the steel balls. For a second Round Robin series, a different solvent for cleaning was selected, MEK, which had showed promising results in earlier tests. The test results this time were much better, but still the results among labs were not at an acceptable level.

For a third Round Robin testing series, new steel balls, which had been plasma treated and consequently cleaned with MEK, were used. Unfortunately, the statistical analysis, with this additional cleaning step of the steel balls, did not improve the test results among labs. The results within the labs were at an acceptable level however.

Finally, it was concluded that the Rolling Ball Tack TM will not be harmonised and is not recommended for use for tack comparison between different labs. In-house use appears not to be a problem. No further work will be done by Afera on this TM and it was agreed by Afera, JATMA and PSTC that the TM should only be used internally by the companies.



5. Harmonization (development) of additional Test Methods

Kiran Malhotra presented the newly developed PSTC Saft TM which might be up for harmonisation between the different counterparts. The TM is attached to these minutes for reviewing (**Attachment: PSTC Saft TM plus full analysis**). All present were requested to come back with their comments per Counterpart in 6 months and no later than June 2013 (**Action: All Counterparts**)
Chairman Lutz Jacob proposed to adjust the TM Matrix and expand it towards the additional adoption of the Saft TM including reviewing periods etc. (**Action: Lutz Jacob**).

TAAT, CATIA and JATMA concluded not to have any methods coming up for harmonization.

Proposed TM's for harmonization outstanding from last meeting at PSTC, May 2011:

- Release Performance
- Unwind
- Tear Resistance
- Accelerated Ageing

Chairman Lutz Jacob requested all present whether one or more of these methods could be up for harmonization. Mike Ayres proposed to make an attempt for a TM on 'unwind'. Lutz Jacob agreed but asked the group who would be taking the lead for such a TM. Afera should ask their membership who owns an 'unwind' machine. Mike Ayres explained that it would be beneficial for some companies if a method would be developed that can test unwinding of a roll with continuous force. PSTC will bring this up to the PSTC membership and ask who owns an unwinding machine. Kiran Malhotra asks the TM Group whether there is an interest in a TM like that. We would be needing someone who takes the lead on the development of this TM.

Afera can bring the proposed idea up in the Technical Committee Test Method Working Group in their February 2013 meeting. JATMA will also bring it up in their meeting whether there is an interest.

All Counterparts should come back to Chairman Lutz Jacob with their findings within 6 months and no later than May 2013 (**Action: Lutz Jacob, Kiran Malhotra, JATMA**).

The Loop Tack TM is the third method that is proposed for possible harmonization. Each Counterpart discusses internally and come back with their priority and their relative importance (Saft, Unwind and Loop) within 6 months. The Loop Tack TM could be a good alternative tack method to come up with a harmonized TM, especially now the Ball Tack TM has failed.

Some discussion arose on the future approach towards ISO, besides the fact that review committees involve people who do not have the expertise on tapes it also takes lengthy procedures to get a harmonized TM in the process and the costs involved to run a method through the ISO procedures are sky-high. Mike Ayres and Lutz Jacob proposed to call the methods that are approved by the GTF Harmonized TM. We should bring up some simple statutes with rules of admission etc. Methods could be approved much quicker and at no costs. Possibly later on we can follow an easier route towards ISO, ISO still has a certain status to the general public and governments. Mike Ayres volunteered to draft a foreword for the GTF forum and what the GTF Harmonized TM's are. (**Action: Mike Ayres**).

Conclusion:

- Everyone agreed that the part forward is not through ISO (high expense, long delays in time) but to harmonize standards between industry groups. Each Counterpart will maintain its own numbering system, but once harmonized will carry the heading 'GTF Harmonized Test Method'.
- The Thickness TM was next in line for ISO harmonization, but based on this meeting it will be a Global Tape Forum Harmonized TM and not an ISO standard.
- Following proposals were made for future harmonization
 - o 1. Width and Length
 - o 2. Loop Tack
 - o 3. Unwind Force
 - o 4. SAFT.
- It was decided that only two will be addressed at one time and that each organisation will have 6 months to review a proposal and agree or disagree to work on it, once it is floated. The appropriate methodology still needs to be developed.

6. Other Business

Ajit Gupta, President of the newly involved Counterpart Afera MEI thanked all present for the informative meeting of today. He was pleased to be included in future correspondence and any other information distributed to all Counterparts.

7. Date and Location of Next GTF and GTMC Meeting

GTF leadership will pass from Afera to the PSTC, which will host the next Meeting as part of their annual meeting in Nashville, Tennessee, U.S.A., in May 2014.

No other matters being raised, Chairman Lutz Jacob thanked all attending Members for their presence, contributions and enthusiasm.

Astrid Lejeune
The Hague, 11 December 2011

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