



Cerex® Nonwoven Storage and Handling Recommendations

610 Chemstrand Road
Cantonment, Florida 32533 USA

Phone: 850.968.0100
Fax: 850.968.5229

I. INTRODUCTION

Cerex Advanced Fabrics, Inc. produces a wide variety of products to satisfy even the most demanding application: SpectraMax™, Cerex®, PBN-II®, Orion™, Spectralon®, and Vibratex®. Cerex® nonwovens are tough and durable materials packaged to withstand the wear and tear of a typical manufacturing site. However, as with any other manufacturing material, nonwoven rolls should be handled with care and stored properly to ensure that the material properties required for an application are retained. In general, Cerex Advanced Fabrics, Inc. recommends that Good Manufacturing Practices (GMP) be utilized when handling Cerex® nonwoven rolls. Specific recommendations by Cerex follow. When proper storage and handling practices are followed, there is no shelf life limit to Cerex® products.

II. SITE LOADING AND UNLOADING

All Cerex® nonwovens are delivered in a protective wrap. A forklift or front end loader fitted with a tapered pole is recommended for loading and unloading nonwoven rolls. The pole should be long enough to extend at least 2/3 of the way into the roll core to avoid the possibility of buckling or breaking the core. In some cases, nonwoven rolls may be packaged on pallets or in boxes. Good forklift handling practices apply to these palletized materials.

III. SITE HANDLING

Nonwoven rolls should be lifted off of the ground when moving. Dragging rolls is not recommended. It is recommended that Cerex® material be staged in the processing areas 24 to 72 hours prior to processing (unpackaged if possible) to allow the nonwoven media to acclimate to the process area temperature and RH conditions. Care should be exercised such that nonwovens be protected from all sources of contamination, including oil, grease, dirt, and water.

IV. ON-SITE STORAGE

During storage at your facility, nonwoven rolls should be protected from moisture, direct sunlight, snow, and vandalism. Therefore, Cerex® product should always be stored indoors, under proper covering. It is preferred that the media be stored in a climate controlled environment where possible. The protective wrapping should not be removed until the nonwoven is ready to be staged in the processing area. Vertical storage should be avoided where possible. Care should be exercised during roll goods stacking to limit the height and to provide adequate chocking.

V. ULTRAVIOLET LIGHT EXPOSURE OF CEREX® NONWOVENS

When left exposed to ultraviolet light, all nonwovens slowly degrade, losing strength in the process. It is highly recommended not to expose Cerex® nonwovens to direct sunlight prior to use.

VI. PROTECTING CEREX® NONWOVENS FROM MOISTURE AND WATER

Polyamide based nonwovens readily absorb moisture. In the case of our PA6.6 based materials, moisture uptake can effect a dimensional change to the product. As a result, you may experience a loosening of the package as RH increases in the storage environment. Conversely, low humidity conditions can tighten the package formation and may cause the product to shrink in both the machine and cross direction. Controlling the humidity during storage will minimize dimensional changes. Protective covering on the nonwovens should not be removed until staging in the processing area.