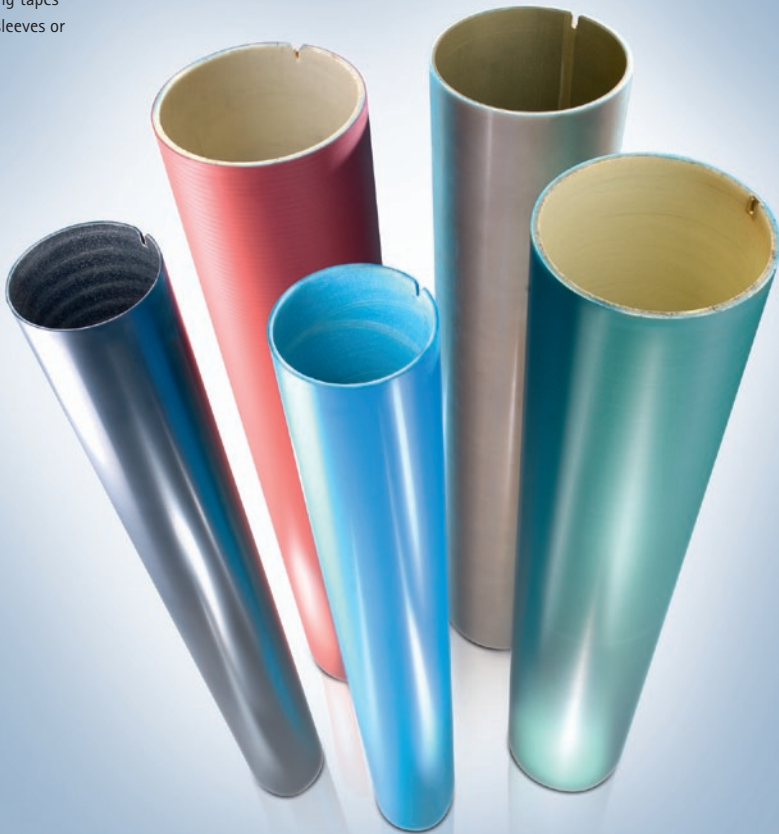


DuploFLEX® 5

What to consider when using
DuploFLEX® plate mounting tapes.



Good to know: DuploFLEX® plate mounting tapes can be easily mounted onto all standard sleeves or print cylinders.



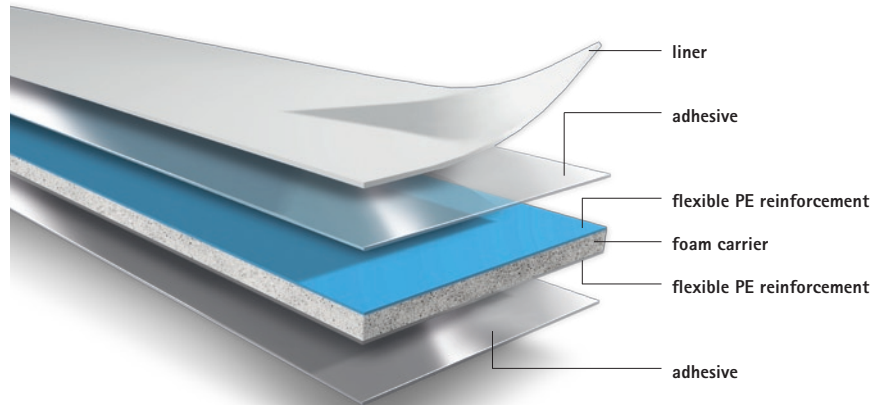
Everything you need to consider when using plate mounting tapes.

We would like to support you with the following operating instructions so that you can achieve the best results in your printing jobs.

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DuploFLEX® 5: the double-sided flexible reinforcement offers superior stability and perfect print results.

In contrast to conventional foam mounting tapes with laminated PET film, Lohmann's DuploFLEX® 5 range is equipped with a double-sided flexible PE reinforcement. A significant construction feature which results in optimal print images. The forces acting upon the compressible foam are perfectly cushioned. The result: no uncontrolled dot gain and an excellent print image – even at high press speeds.



Cleaning the print cylinder.

Supreme cleanliness is vital during the mounting process of the plate, as it ensures a smooth work flow of the printing operation and optimised print results.

In order to safeguard the best possible adhesion of the mounting tape, any trace of grease, dust or ink and adhesive residues has to be avoided. Clean the sleeve or print cylinder prior to mounting, e.g. with an Isopropanol-water mixture.



Mounting the plate mounting tape.

First, the plate mounting tape is attached to the sleeve or cylinder. Mount the adhesive tape axially to the sleeve or print cylinder so as to achieve a straight edge. We recommend pressing the adhesive tape as flat as possible with a rubber roller to avoid the formation of folds and bubbles.



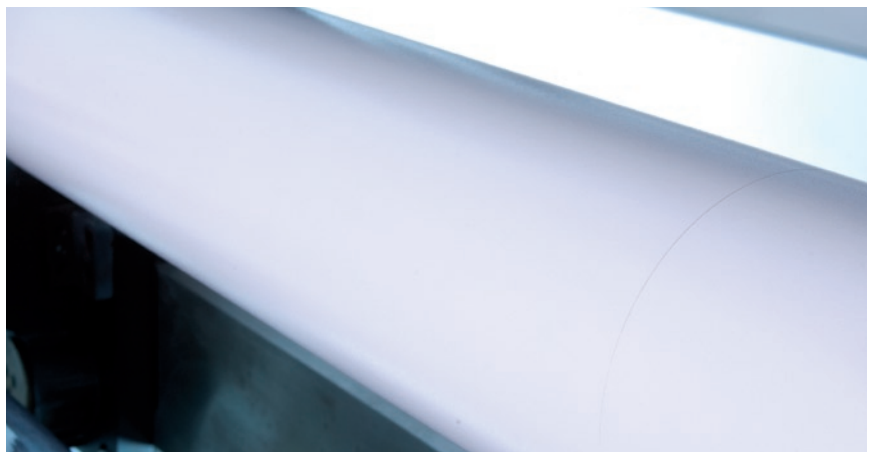
Trimming off the mounting tape.

The adhesive tape can be cut to size with a cutting guide. Align it with the connecting edge of the mounting tape and trim off the overlapping adhesive tape using a sharp knife along the upper edge of the cutting guide. Now you can easily remove the cutting guide and fill the gap.



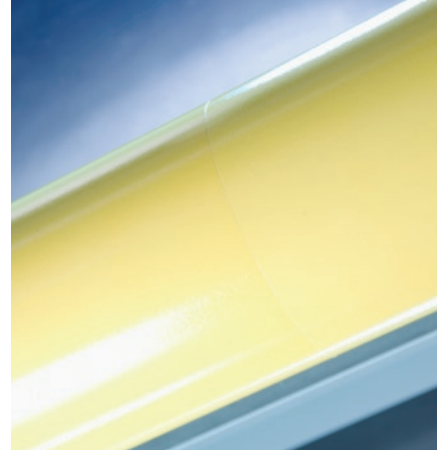
Butt-to-butt mounting.

If the plate requires a wider surface, two mounting tapes are attached to the sleeve or print cylinder, butting each other. Make sure to work very accurately and avoid any spaces, gaps or an overlapping of the adhesive tapes – this would have an impact on the print image later on.



Removing the liner.

The plate mounting tape is protected by a white cover, the liner. In order to support a firm adhesion of the mounting tape on the sleeve, the liner should be pulled off at as small an angle as possible. Mount the plate as soon as possible, after removing the liner, as the function of the unprotected adhesive layer can be negatively impacted by dust.



Cleaning and pre-treating the plate.

Prior to attaching the plate, it should be cleaned of dust, grease or other contamination by means of a suitable solvent. In order to ensure superior attachment or adhesive strength, as well as provide a consistent grip on the sleeve or the print cylinder respectively, the solvent should be completely dry if at all possible before the plate is mounted.

As an option, the edges can be treated with a primer so as to increase the tack along the edges and avoid so-called edge lifting.



Adjustment of the plate.

Align the micro points on the plate into position with the register marks on the monitor. Now the plate can be accurately mounted to the adhesive tape

Tips:

1. Subject vibration marks

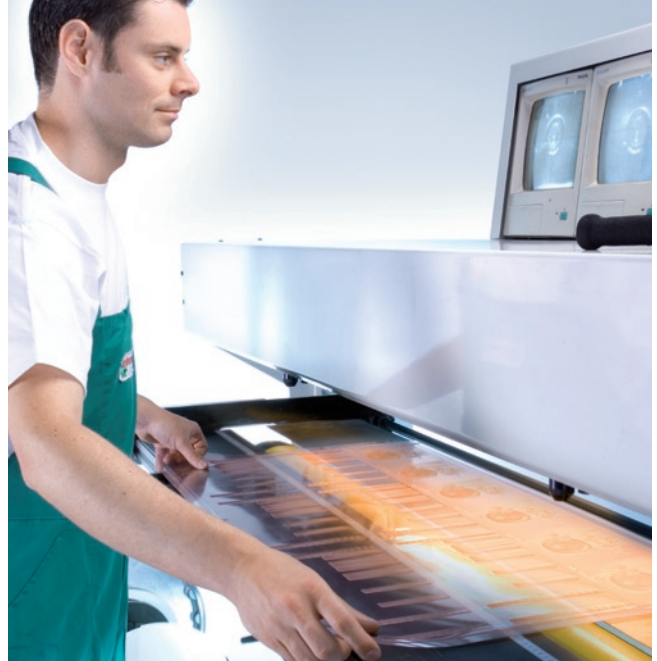
Often, when the leading edge is too firm, vibration marks appear – a phenomenon which does not allow productive press speeds. If at all possible, this should be counteracted by arranging the plate printing halftones and process work close to the leading edge.

2. Subject multi-yield prints

When processing multi-yield prints, it is advisable to stagger the individual printing plates on the cylinder.

3. Subject print image

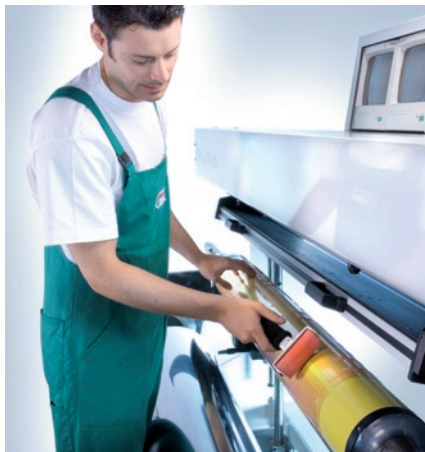
Make sure not to put print subjects or halftone wedges on the leading edge in order to avoid undesired flaws in the print image.



Fixing the plate.

By means of a roller, the plate is mounted to the adhesive tape bubble-free. Make sure to carefully apply pressure to the edges of the plate.

In case of an extended delay between mounting and printing, the plate should be wrapped in an expandable and lightproof Polyethylene film in order to protect it from light, contamination and other external forces.



Sealing the edges.

The plate edges are occasionally sealed in order to prevent edge lifting which may occur during longer print runs or may be caused by washing the plates before or during the press run. The easiest and safest way is to protect the edges with a single-sided adhesive tape. However, this measure requires sufficient distance between the edges of the plate.

If the distance between the plate edges is too tight, they can also be fixed with a hotmelt or a liquid glue.



Trimming off extended plate mounting tape.

Extended adhesive tape is removed so as to avoid contact with the print substrate. Carefully trim off the adhesive tape along the outer edges of the plate with a sharp knife.



Positioning the sleeves in the printing unit.

Each of the completely assembled sleeves is mounted into the corresponding inking unit.



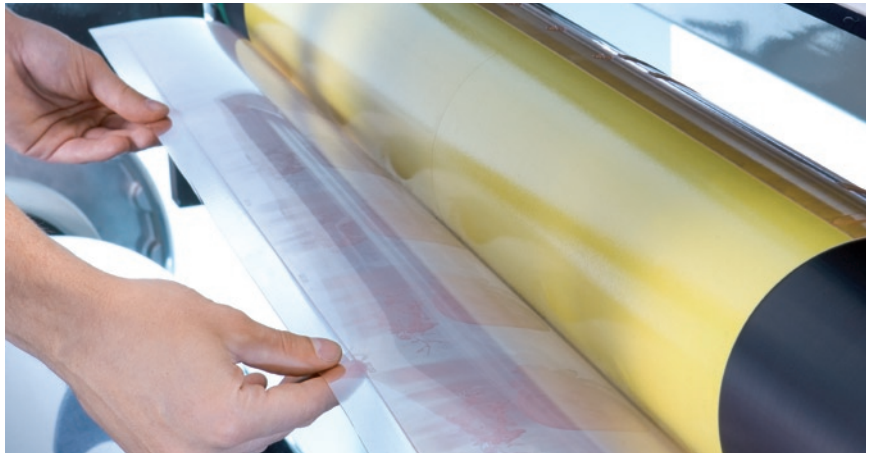
Evaluating the proof.

After the proof has been printed, the material is evaluated on the light table. Possible irregularities in the print can be discerned by means of a magnifier.



Demounting the plate.

After the print job is completed, first remove the plate from the adhesive tape. Pulling off the plate at a right angle ensures a clean demounting operation.



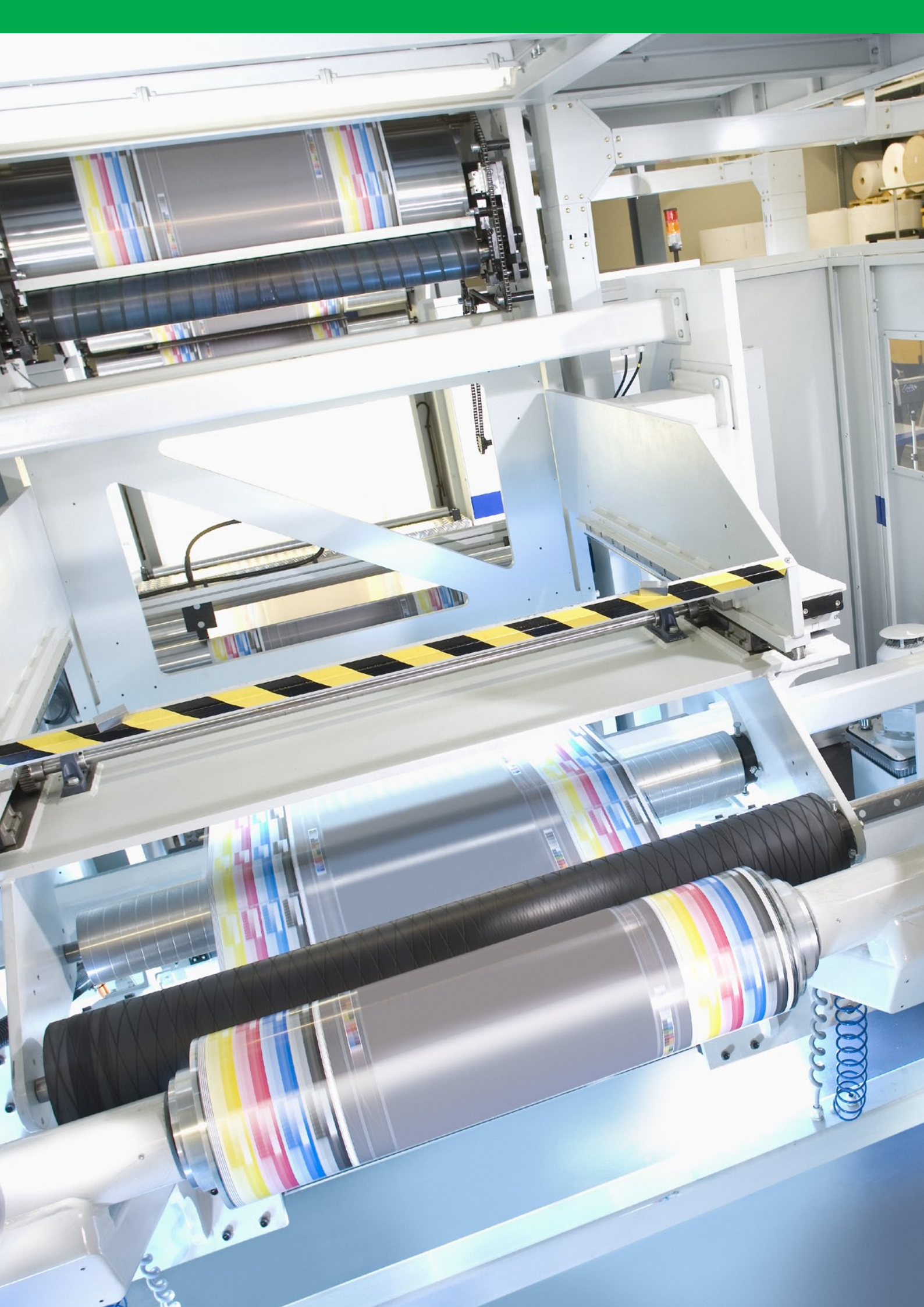
Removing the plate mounting tape.

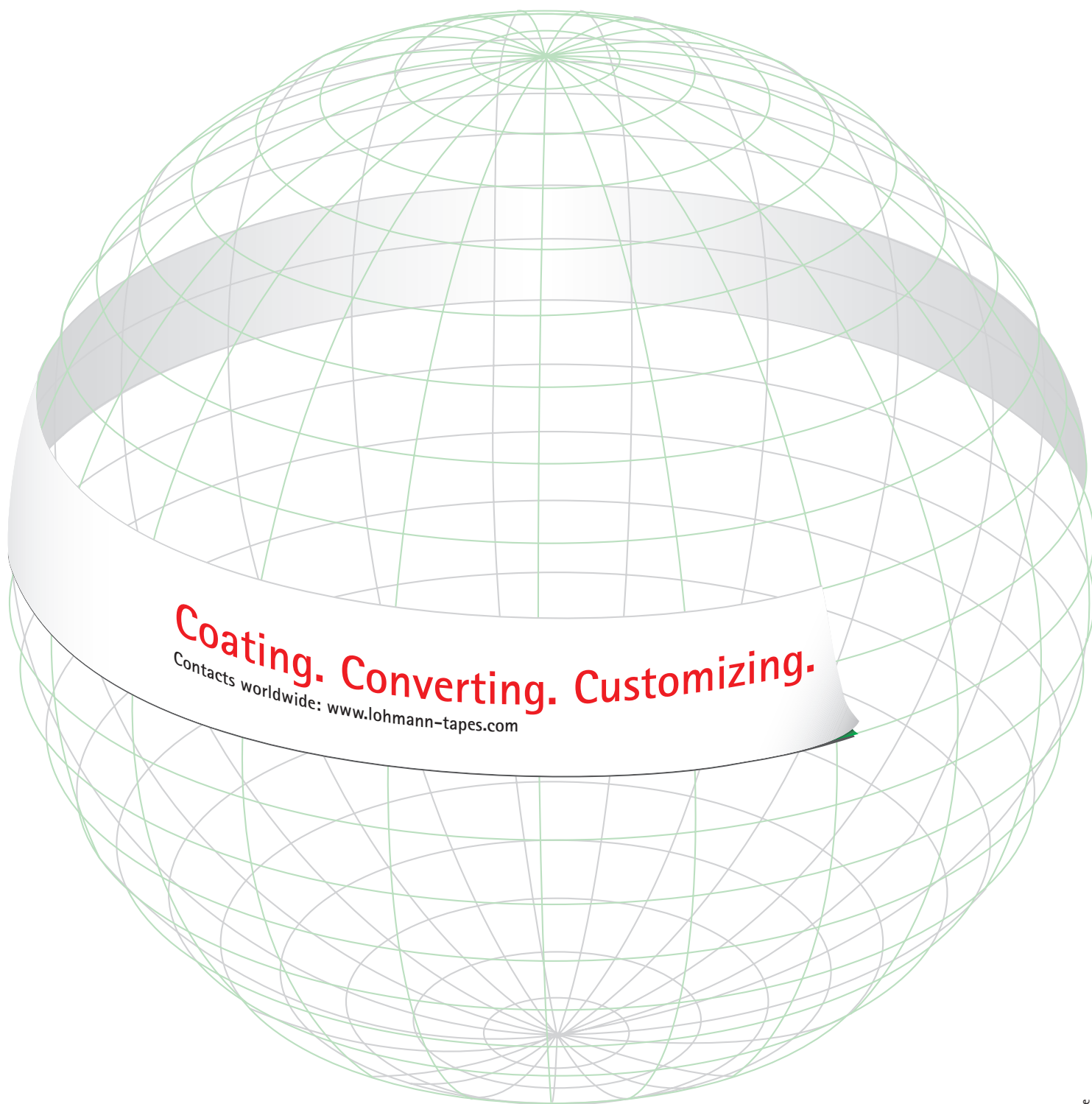
The plate mounting tape is removed from sleeve or print cylinder by pulling it away at a right angle. DuploFLEX® mounting tapes manufactured by Lohmann do not leave any adhesive residue on sleeve or cylinder.



Questions?

Your local Lohmann representative will be happy to assist you. Please look up our contact information at www.lohmann-tapes.com





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