



The Seaboard Advantage

At Seaboard Bindery, we have the knowledge, experience and production capabilities to help you turn great ideas into attractive pieces. Even the “simple” projects need advance planning to turn out properly. Involve us early in your project to be sure the final product meets both your demands and those of your clients.

Services offered:

Perfect Binding
Mechanical Binding
Saddle Stitching
Die Cutting
Folding
Film Laminating
Index Tabbing
Design & Planning
And More!

Inks, Varnishes and Coatings Affect Adhesive Binding

Some of our customers have recently sought our advice about developing internal policies for properly planning their adhesive binding jobs. Although we’re the first to admit that there are very few absolute rules in our complex graphic arts industry, we certainly applaud the effort to standardize project planning. Here are some guidelines to consider when planning adhesive bound jobs with inks, varnishes and other paper coatings at or near the spine area.

Inside Cover Artwork

A lot of attractive annual reports and other perfect bound projects have inside covers with ink, varnish and other paper coatings bleeding into the spine hinge score area. When working on jobs like these, it’s very important to layout your inside covers right.

Regular EVA (ethylene vinyl acetate) perfect bound glues don’t adhere properly when many kinds of solvents found in inks, varnishes, UV and other paper coatings are present. Therefore, when planning your inside covers, don’t let these types of coatings bleed into the hinge score and/or spine areas by more than 1/16”. In addition, it’s important to get a bulking dummy made prior to laying out cover artwork. If the text pages bulk out thicker than expected, the knockout area will be insufficient, jeopardizing the strength of the glue adhesion between the prepared book block and the cover.

Text Layouts

When inks bleed into perfect binding grind-off areas, “solvent migration” is a significant threat to glue adhesion. After a short period of time, residual solvents from ink may degrade the glue, causing books to fall apart upon future use. (Varnish, UV and aqueous coatings in the text area also hinder glue adhesion.) Although EVA glues may appear to firmly hold newly manufactured perfect bound books with grind-off area bleeding problems, adhesion may be temporary.

When You Run Out Of Options: PUR to the Rescue

What happens if either a cover or text layout mistake is made and a paper coating causes production problems? Will a reprint be necessary? Due to rapidly advancing adhesive technology, fortunately not. Today’s PUR (polyurethane reactive) glue formulations are able to hold problematic jobs together, regardless of coating solvents. Yes, PUR is more expensive, but when compared to the high cost and lost time of reprinting, the PUR price premium usually is viewed as a bargain.