

Film Applicators

Thank you for purchasing a Film Applicator from Ascott. Please read these instructions carefully and retain for future reference.

Important Information

This equipment should only be used as intended by suitably qualified and trained personnel.

These instructions should be always readily available to such personnel.

Normal common-sense safety precautions must be taken at all times to avoid the possibility of accidents. We recommend that users produce their own risk assessment for the entire testing process for which this equipment will be used.

1.0 ABOUT THIS INSTRUMENT

1.1 Description

The Film Applicator is a simple but effective instrument for applying a uniform and reproducible film of product to a substrate.

The applicator is placed on the substrate and pushed over a sample of the product to produce the film. Your applicator can be pushed by hand or by a motorized film applicator. The applicator is manufactured from hardened stainless steel.

1.2 What the box contains

- Film Applicator
- Storage case
- Operating instructions

Your Film Applicator is packed in a plastic and foam package. Please ensure that all packaging material is disposed of in an environmentally sensitive manner. Consult your local Environmental Authority for further guidance.

1.3 Standards

Depending upon model, these film applicators can be used in accordance with the following National and International Standards: **ASTM D 823-E**

1.4 These instructions

These instructions are applicable to the following models of film applicator:

One-sided Applicator

Two-sided Applicator

Cube Applicator

Four-sided Applicator (Frame-Type)

Four-sided Applicator

2.0 OPERATION

Before you apply a film, select the correct film thickness:

Please note, the numbers engraved on the end face of the applicator indicate the gap depth, not the film thickness. The actual film thickness after application is approximately half of the depth of gap.

Place the applicator with the required thickness in contact with the substrate; the applicator shown below will give a gap depth of 60 and the wet film thickness of approximately 30 μm (1 mils).

2.1 APPLICATION PROCEDURE

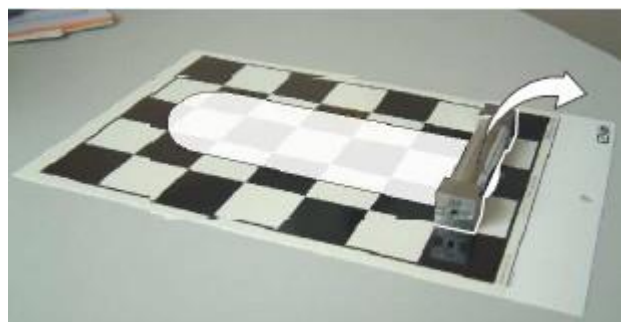
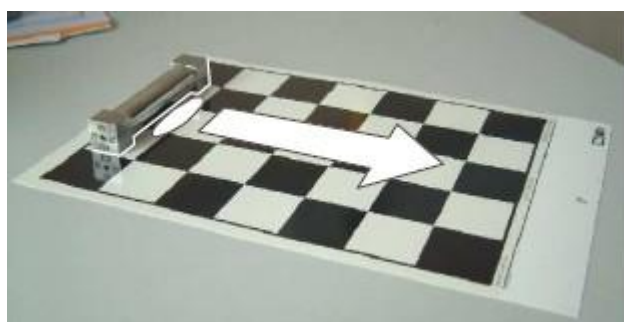
Take care while you are using your Film Applicator. Damage to the working surfaces will affect the film thickness and the instrument may have to be replaced.

- ① Before each use check the working surfaces for irregularities and damage.
- ② Fix a clean substrate on a flat and horizontal base (e.g., vacuum table).
- ③ At one end of the substrate, spread sufficient product over a width slightly smaller than the internal width of the applicator.
- ④ Place the applicator onto the substrate behind the product



- ⑤ Spread the film by moving the applicator towards the opposite end of the substrate at a constant speed.

- ⑥ Lift the applicator from the substrate taking care to catch any product dripping from the applicator before it lands on the newly prepared film. After the test, clean your film applicator thoroughly.



NOTE:

Do not use very aggressive solvents or wire brushes, metal scrapers, metal files or other metallic tools for cleaning.

Clean the applicator using a suitable solvent. After cleaning, ensure that all materials are removed and that the instrument is dry. Use the case provided to store the gauge when it is not being used.

3.0 WET FILM THICKNESS

The thickness of the film produced by your applicator depends on many factors including:

- The speed of film application,
- Applicator blade gap setting,
- Surface tension,
- The viscosity of the product.

4.0 MAINTENANCE

This Film Applicator is designed to give many years reliable service under normal operating and storage conditions. Regular calibration checks over the life of the micrometer gauges are a requirement of quality management procedures e.g. ISO 9000 and other standards.

5.0 TECHNICAL SPECIFICATION

Material: Corrosion-resistance Stainless Steel

6.0 RELATED EQUIPMENT

Ascott supplies a wide range of coatings inspection gauges and related equipment. Users of this Film Applicator may also benefit from the following products:

Fineness of Grind Gauges
Test Charts

Available at www.ascottshop.com

If you have any queries regarding your new equipment, or require any additional accessories or consumables, please contact info@ascottshop.com or telephone +44 (0)1827 318040. If you wish to contact us by post, our full mailing address is 6-8 Gerard, Tamworth, Staffordshire, B79 7UW