



3901 Structural Adhesive Primer

Product Data Sheet

Updated : March 1996 Supersedes : November 1993

Product Description

3901 is a primer for Scotch-Weld film or liquid adhesives in those applications where it is desired to obtain improved adhesion or improved resistance to environmental exposure.

Ensures complete wetting of film adhesive to adherend surfaces.
Simplifies production scheduling by protecting the cleaned surfaces until the bonding operations can be completed.

Imparts corrosion protection to metal.

Physical Properties

Not for specification purposes

Base	Synthetic Resin		
Solvent	Methanol		
Flash Point	+ 12°C		
Viscosity at 27°C (80°F)	5 ± 2 cP (Brookfield RVF No. 1 spindle 20 RPM)		
Specific Gravity	0.78 (approx)		
Colour	Red		
Shelf Life	12 months from date of despatch by 3M when stored in the original carton at 21°C (70°F) & 50 % Relative Humidity		

Product Performance

Not for specification purposes

Overlap Shear Strength (N/mm²)

The following data shows data using 3901 on various metal substrates.

Adherend	-55°C	24°C	82°C
50 MIL 6-4 Titanium Alloy	47 PSI	40 PSI	25 PSI
50 MIL 17-7 Stainless Steel	70.4 PSI	43.5 PSI	24.8 PSI

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Directions for Use

Application:

A thoroughly cleaned, dry, grease free surface is essential for maximum performance. Cleaning methods which will produce a break-free water film on metal surfaces are generally satisfactory.

Surface preparations should be fully evaluated with the adhesive, especially if resistance to specific environments are anticipated.

Surface Preparation

Suggested Cleaning Procedures for Aluminium.

- 1. Vapour Degrease Perchloroethylene
 condensing vapours for 5 10 minutes.
- 2. Alkaline Degrease Oakite 164 solution (11-14
 oz/ gallon water) at 88°C ±
 6°C (190°F ± 10°F) for 1020 minutes. Rinse
 immediately in large
 quantities of cold running
 water.
- 3. Acid Etch Place panels in either of the solutions in the table below for 10 minutes at 66°C ± 6°C (150°F ± 10°F).

- **4. Rinse** Rinse panels in clear running water.
- 5. Dry Air dry 15 minutes, force dry 10 minutes at $66^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 6^{\circ}\text{C} (150^{\circ}\text{F} \pm 10^{\circ}\text{F})$.
- **6.** It is advisable to coat the freshly cleaned surfaces with 3901 within four hours after surface preparation.
- 7. Care should be taken to avoid contaminating the cleaned aluminium by any substance which will hinder the wetting action of 3901.
- 8. When using chemicals for clean up procedures, refer to manufacturers' safety instructions.

	A (FPL Etch)	В
Distilled Water	30 parts by weight	30 parts by weight
Sulphuric Acid (Conc.)	10 parts by weight	10 parts by weight
Sodium Dichromate	1 part by weight	4 parts by weight

Primer Application

3901 has been successfully applied by spraying and brushing.

The following spray equipment is suggested to obtain optimum results.

(NOTE: Only a micromolecular layer of primer is required)

Spray Gun
Air Cap
Needle-Nozzle
Line Pressure
Pot Pressure
Distance from Panel
Primer Thickness (dry)

DeVilbiss MBC
No. 78
AV-15-FX
60-80 PSI
1-2 PSI
14 ± 3 inches
Less than .0001"

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Primer Dry	The following cycle is suggested for 3901: Air Dry - Air dry at 24°C to 30°C (75°F to 85°F) for a minimum of one hour.	Humidity contributes greatly to satisfactory use of this primer. Relative humidity of 25% or lower may cause difficulties and should be thoroughly evaluated in the customer's application.	cooling to ambient of temperatures, is ready for adhesive bonding. The primed surface should be		
	Force Dry - Circulating air oven at 80°C (190°F) for 30 minutes. Air dry cycles for periods as short as ½ hour have been used successfully with the force dry cycle.	Air drying cycles without forced dry cycles have also been successful, where optimum bond strength is not a requirement. This should again be evaluated in the Customer's application.	dust, fingerprints, oil etc.		
Primer Clean Up	Excess primer and equipment may be cleaned up prior to curing with Ketone type solvents.	NOTE: Ketone solvents are flammable.	When using solvents for clean up it is essential that proper precautionary measures be observed.		
Storage Conditions	Store product at 16°C to 27°C (60°F to 80°F) for maximum storage life. Higher temperatures reduce normal storage life.	This material is purposely packaged in small mouth glass bottles in order to prevent premature reaction of the active ingredients	with atmospheric moisture or metallic surfaces.		
Precautionary Information	Refer to product label and Material Safety Data Sheet for health and safety information before using the product. For information please contact your local 3M Office. www.3M.com				
For Additional Information	To request additional product information or to arrange for sales assistance, call Address correspondence to: 3M				
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3M Nederland BV

Industriële Tapes & lijmen e-mail: 3mbonding.nl@mmm.com Customer Sevice:
Postbus 193 internet: www.3m.nl/tapes Tel.: (071)5 450 187
2300 AD Leiden www.3m.nl/lijmen Fax: (071)5 450 376