



PSTC[®]

RESPONSIBLE TAPE MANUFACTURER



What is the RTM Program?

The Responsible Tape Manufacturer program is a PSTC commitment that assures you will receive quality tape products from a company that adheres to responsible manufacturing practices, and the ethical treatment of workers and the environment.

How does it work?

PSTC members engage in a thorough process that follows U.S. and ISO regulations, standards and practices for all of their tape manufacturing facilities, whether here in the U.S. or overseas. Compliance is regularly verified by a third-party audit. PSTC members invest in this process to ensure their customers receive quality products that are responsibly produced.

When you select a Responsible Tape Manufacturer, you choose to:

- o Uphold the well-being of society
- o Promote environmental stewardship
- o Invest in quality products

When choosing PSA tapes from a Responsible Tape Manufacturer, you get...

A Bond You Can Trust

For more information about PSTC and the Responsible Tape Manufacturer Program contact PSTC at www.pstc.org and info@pstc.org



PSTC[®]
PRESSURE SENSITIVE TAPE COUNCIL

A bond you can trust.

What are the environmental regulations adhered to by RTM companies?

Air

The Clean Air Act and its amendments have established numerous state and federal programs designed to protect human health and well-being from the potential harmful effects of air pollution. These regulations establish emission limits, monitoring and testing requirements on specific source categories. Pressure sensitive tape and label (PSTL) is one category. NSPS sets a 90% control efficiency requirement on emissions of volatile organic compounds at new and modified sources in the category.

Waste

Compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) ensures that all PTSC members' wastes are handled properly, from on-site treatment to disposal at licensed facilities. Compliance minimizes any uncontrolled releases to the environment. Industry conformance to hazardous waste rules promotes limited environmental impact on air, waste and water resulting in a healthy environment. Specific requirements for training, handling and storage provide for workplace safety and overall accident prevention.

Water

By complying with water rules and regulations, companies ensure that the discharge of pollutants to surface water bodies are minimized or prevented altogether. Regulations apply to bodies of water such as rivers, streams, lakes, ponds and oceans, and to groundwater aquifers. PSTC members have to comply in the following areas:

Storm Water: Storm water rules limit the discharge of pollutants (e.g., suspended solids, oil and grease and volatile organic compounds) in storm water runoff from industrial sites, such as pressure sensitive tape manufacturing facilities. The rules require affected industrial facilities to apply for a general permit or an individual permit for their storm water discharges. For facilities with a general permit, the owner or operator must develop and implement a storm water pollution prevention plan, or SPPP.

Wastewater Treatment: The National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) rules outline the requirements for facilities that discharge industrial wastewater (e.g., process wastewater, boiler blowdown, cooling water) directly to surface or groundwater, or to a publicly owned treatment works (POTW). Such facilities must apply for, and receive, a direct discharge permit, or a pre-treatment permit, prior to discharge initiation. The permit specifies effluent limits for all process wastewater parameters, e.g., pH, oil and grease, suspended solids. The permit also outlines pre-treatment or treatment requirements as well as effluent monitoring, testing and reporting obligations.

Chemical

Compliance with these requirements ensures that all potentially harmful chemicals are identified and communicated to adjacent communities and appropriate civil authorities for proper emergency planning. This enhances trust through full disclosure of any substance that have the possibility of harmful effects if uncontrolled.

Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA): EPCRA is designed to help local communities protect public health and safety and the environment from chemical hazards. It is also known as Title III of the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA). EPCRA has four major provisions: one deals with emergency planning and three deal with chemical reporting.