

Information on Press-O-Film **X-Coarse Plus** Grade

Testex recommends that its X-Coarse Plus film be used only to check profiles determined to be at, or near, the upper limit of its regular X-Coarse tape (range: 1.5 - 4.5 mils, i.e. 40 - 115 um) and that X Coarse Plus measurements be considered valid only to a maximum measured value of 5.0 mils (127 um).

Good practice suggests that measurements made with *any* grade be regarded with suspicion if those measurements are at, or near, either end of a given grade's quoted range. For regular X-Coarse grade, the upper end would include any measurements approaching 4.5 mils (115 um). **Because no higher grade is available for checking a given X Coarse Plus measurement, we have set 5.0 mils (127 um) as a safe upper limit for a successful measurement with this grade.** (Similarly, Coarse Minus grade, used to check measurements at the low end of our Coarse grade's 0.8 to 2.0 mil, i.e. 12 to 26 um, range, has an arbitrarily-set *lower* limit.)

Procedures for use of X-Coarse Plus grade tape are similar to those applicable to regular X-Coarse grade except for the need to apply greater pressure to fully collapse the tape's plastic microfoam.

Note: While good practice suggests that an upper limit of 5.0 mils (127 um) be observed, Testex in fact believes its X-Coarse Plus grade to return reliable measurements of profile up to at least 5.8 mils (147 um), implying a range of 4.6 - 5.8 mils (116 - 147 um).

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