PRODUCT INFORMATION SHEET

BENCHMARK: POLYETHYLENE STRAP

Softer than the conventionally used Mylar strips, our clear, non-adhesive 4 mil polyethylene strap does a kinder job when pages need to be restrained, when correcting text block drag or to safely adhere barcodes without damaging rare books.

Some Poly Strap Things To Do:
Affixing Barcodes:

HOW TO DO IT:
Place the polyethylene strapping snugly around the back cover board of the book. Use a paper clip to hold the poly strap together. Slide the strapping off and use a thermo impulse sealer to form the loop. Once sealed, carefully cut the extra poly strap to make a half-inch overlap. Slide the newly formed loop onto the book’s cover board and attach the barcode.

TIP:
It is important to make the loop snug since loose loops are more likely to get separated from the book and can catch on things.

WHAT SIZE POLY TO USE:
The poly strap should be a little wider than the barcode to make it easier to attach the barcode.

Restraining Pages:
If pages lift from the text block, refusing to lie flat, use Polyethylene Strap to hold them down. We like using the 2” strap on the page under the page to be displayed so as to hold the bulk of the text block together with the cover. Then wrap the 3/16” or 3/8” strap around the whole book now capturing the page to be shown. This will give you double the strength with only the thinner strap visible.

Fixing Text Block Drag:
Text Block Drag is caused by the weight of the unsupported pages pulling on the spine. This puts uneven stress on the construction of the book, distorting pages and straining the spine. To overcome this problem, we recommend the Mowery Sling: Tape a length of strap to the back of the book support plate, near the top. Place the book on the Bookmount. Move the text block out of the way, exposing the inside of the book’s cover. Bring the strap down across the inside of the cover, then position the text block for display, bringing the strap up and over the text block to the back of the support plate. Secure with tape. This completes the sling.

cont.
A good example of Text Block Drag corrected:

A classic case of text block drag.

Layer one: 2” poly strap put in place using the Mowery Sling. And the text block is no longer dragging.

(Poly strap has been digitized dayglo pink for visibility.)

This photo shows how to use the two different widths of poly strap: The 2” (digitized pink) is used under the display page to hold the bulk of the weight.

The narrower strap (digitized yellow) is used just to hold the display page - less visual obstruction.