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).