

December, 2010

Tedlar Film No Longer Available

Suppliers of Tedlar to the HVAC industry have recently confirmed that this commonly specified film liner will no longer be available for purchase. As a result, Price will be replacing Tedlar film with other suitable noise control products, effective immediately.

The Role of Film Liners in Noise Control

Noise control product recommendations and selections for commercial HVAC construction are based on the industry standards and restrictions placed upon the application in question. In critical environment applications, such as hospitals, labs and cleanrooms, specifications often prohibit fiber glass media that is exposed to the air stream. For these applications, there are two options:

- completely remove the acoustic media from the product, or
- use protective film liners to encapsulate the acoustic media.

A Brief History of Film Liners in Noise Control

Over the years there have been several options available, from thin films to solid sheet metal lining in products that use fiberglass as an acoustic or thermal media. These "liners" are made from dozens of different materials, and have found their way into many products in the HVAC system.

In silencers, the most commonly used film liners have been Mylar, Tedlar or generic polymer films. From a specification stand-point, the engineering community's film liner preferences have evolved. Tedlar, which is a trademarked material from the DuPont Company, became more and more popular for use in ductwork through the 1990s. In mid-2010 Price learned that Tedlar would likely no longer be available to industries outside the Photo-Voltaic Market (Solar Panels). This was confirmed in November 2010, when long-time suppliers advised that their access to Tedlar had been removed.

Price's Solution to Tedlar Unavailability

In anticipation of this change in supply, steps will be taken to eliminate trademarked brand name materials from our literature. To support this transition, Price has confirmed that there are many film liner materials that will meet the required specifications for flame and smoke, mold growth, erosion and moisture resistance

With that in mind, Price has eliminated the use of Mylar and Tedlar from our specifications and replaced it with the term *Polymer Film*. We will continue to use Mylar film as our preferred standard film liner, but will no longer be referencing it as a specifiable material.

This change has been noted in all printed material. Catalog and Software Updates will reflect this change as well.

Price can provide detailed cut sheets and test reports if required.