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## Rubber Roller Care

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The questions of “What is the best way to store a roll?” and “What are some best maintenance practices to help make a roll last longer?” are why we have prepared this general paper on rubber roller care and maintenance. It needs to be noted that this paper is not meant to be the rule, but more as a guide to point you in the right direction. As always, if you have any questions please feel free to contact our helpful customer services reps or your sales engineer.

### Boxes and Shipping

Most rolls should be shipped in a box or crate to protect the cover during shipment and storage. Although in some cases a skid may be acceptable provided that the roller is protected with some kind of cushioning material to prevent damage to the surface. The box should be constructed as to provide sufficient strength and support and large enough to enclose the roll completely. Rolls Incorporated recommends a minimum of 2” clearance around all surfaces of the roll, if the box is used for multiple rolls the same 2” clearance should be used between the rolls. Care also needs to be taken to ensure that no movement of the roll takes place and that there are no nail, screw, or other internal projections which could damage the roll surface should the core or the box flex during handling. It is also a good practice to take the top off the box and examine the surface of the roller for any flaws that could have been caused during shipping.

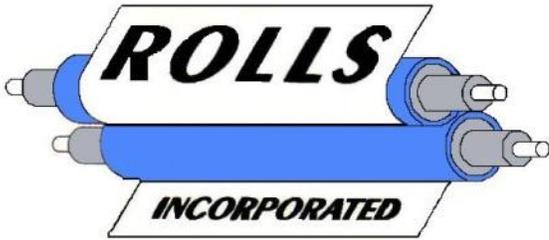
### Cold Weather Protection

Damage to covering can occur from shock in handling while cold or from rapid temperature changes. Cold rolls should be handled or lifted with care; temperatures below 40 degrees F (5 degrees C) are considered critical. In the event that a roll is received at a temperature lower than 40 degrees F care must be taken that the covering and the roll body increase in temperature at the same rate. Otherwise, they might be damaged by different thermal expansion. The possibility of damage can be minimized by putting that roll in storage facility where the temperature is around 40 degrees F for at least a 24-hour, gradual warm-up. Only after the 24-hour period should the cold rolls be moved into a place where normal room temperature prevails.

### Storage

Rolls should be stored in a cool, dark area where they will not be exposed to direct sunlight or wide temperature or humidity variations from normal conditions. The storage area should not be a work area or in a high traffic area to avoid accidental damage. Also areas with high ozone concentration, such as areas with motor generators or other electrical arc producing machinery, should not be used for storage. Where possible, rolls should be stored in their original shipping crate to provide extra protection. If this is not possible the rolls should be supported by the journals or shafts so that the surface of the cover is not touching any surface, as this could cause the cover to develop a flat spot on the surface that may or not come out. Also, if the roll is going to be stored for an extended period of time it

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is a good practice to rotate the roll a quarter turn or so about every month to prevent sagging of the cover due to gravity. When a roll is out of service for a long period, of time, the rubber cover, like metal, can oxidize on the surface. This can be observed by discoloration on the surface or if the durometer of the roll has gone up a few points. In most cases this oxidation to the surface can be removed with a lite kiss grind, removing 1/32" off the surface there by reducing the overall diameter by 1/16".

### Surface Protection

At all times, when the roll is not in use the surface needs to be protected from coming in contact with foreign materials. If the original paper the roll is wrapped in cannot be used something else similar should be used to cover the surface. Depending on the material deterioration of the cover may result if oil, grease, kerosene, solvents, or other chemicals are allowed to come in contact with the rubber and remain on the surface. If the roller surface has to be cleaned the only thing that we can openly recommend to use is soap and water. In most cases, soap and water will not be able to adequately clean the surface; in this case we would need to get a sample of what you're wanting to use and do an immersion test with the material to make sure it does not affect the material on your roll. Also cleaning the surface by hand with abrasive paper is not recommended because it usually results in uneven removal of rubber with resulting flat spots. When handling rolls great care should be taken to avoid damage by bumping or knocking any part of the roll. If the roll has to be lifted the journals needs to be used for your lifting points. In cases where this is not an option a wide sling (never a chain) should be used to help distribute the weight of the roll over as much surface as possible.

At Rolls Incorporated we care about your success and that your rolls to last as long as possible. Following these guide lines will help us achieve these goals together and ensure that your roll will remain at the high quality standards you desire. As stated before if you would like any further information on rubber roll care please feel free to contact us and we can discuss additional options.