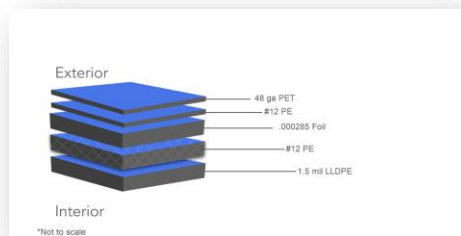


Technical White Paper

Barrier Bag Seal Failure “Blow Outs”

There are several factors that can cause a flexible barrier package to “blow out” or tear apart at the seals. The most obvious answer is weak seals and/or poor construction. However, often the cause is due to either the film strength selected or the logistical path of the pouches.

When choosing a film, it is important to consider the thickness/strength of the film vs. the weight of the product. When a product is dropped or any significant pressure is put on it, if the film strength does not match the weight of the product inside the pouch, then the bag will “blow out” (rip apart). Of course, since most pouches are also used for marketing and looks as well the te its important to keep the cosmetic aspects of the film in mind



When considering film strength one of the first things to consider is the number of layers. Are you currently using a 3 layer or 3 mil film? Perhaps a 4 layer or 4 mil would work better? Of course, choosing structures with layers that are specifically included for strength, like Nylon or EVOH, will also help strengthen the pouch to

handle the weight of the product inside. We recommend asking for samples of any potential new film, so that you can do the appropriate in house testing to determine the suitability of a new film to your products application.

Logistical Path

How many pouches are having “blow out”? Is it only a handful relative to the size of the order? Double check that master packaging standards are in place (i.e. always the same number of bags per box, the inner packaging is the same in each box, the bags are being filled with the same exact weight of product, etc.).

The logistical route the pouch takes can also influence the state of the pouch between the time of filling and when it eventually ends up in the end user hands. We advise that you “build” your pouch for the worst-case scenario in the logistical path (this includes a thoughtful consideration of the film strength mentioned above, along with feature placement, seal width, and bag weight).

At ESP Packaging we want to work with you to help build a bag that can survive both your product, your employees and its final destination.