## **TESTEX**

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## Information on Press-O-Film X-Coarse Plus Grade

Testex recommends that its <u>X-Coarse Plus</u> film be used only to check profiles determined to be at, or near, the upper limit of its regular <u>X-Coarse</u> tape (range: 1.5 - 4.5 mils, i.e. 40 - 115 um) and that <u>X Coarse Plus</u> 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 <u>X-Coarse</u> grade, the upper end would include any measurements approaching 4.5 mils (115 um). **Because no higher grade is available for checking a given <u>X Coarse Plus</u> measurement, we have set 5.0 mils (127 um) as a safe upper limit for a successful measurement with this grade. (Similarly, <u>Coarse Minus</u> grade, used to check measurements at the low end of our <u>Coarse</u> 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 <u>X-Coarse Plus</u> grade tape are similar to those applicable to regular <u>X-Coarse</u> 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).