

# Test Report

No. 105 35276e\*)



**Date of Report** 31 August 2009

**Client** **Soudal N. V.**  
Everdongenlaan 18 - 20  
  
2300 Turnhout  
Belgium

**Order** Comparative adhesion test of PUR foam filled in a joint - in initial state and following exposure to mechanical load (ea. 3,000 cycles elongation/compression, transverse shear, longitudinal shear)

**Object** PUR-foam - designation  
„FLEXISCHAUM“

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\*) Translation of Test Report 105 35276 dated 26 May 2009.

## 1. Order

The company Soudal N. V., B-2300 Turnhout, commissioned the **ift** Rosenheim, to test the adhesion of the elastic PUR foam, designation "FLEXISCHAUM" in the initial state and following exposure to mechanical loads and to compare it to a "conventional" PUR foam.

## 2. Object

### 3.1 Description of test specimen

Client made available to the **ift** ea. 2 test specimens per foam type, composed of a concrete lintel (W x H x L: 90 mm x 60 mm x 1,200 mm), a white plastic window profile section, ea. of 1,000 mm length, and PUR foams filled into the joint of approx. 20 mm width.

The PUR foams are the products listed below:

Designation	FLEXISCHAUM
Material / Base	moisture-cure, one-component installation foam (in-situ foam) PUR based, colour: light yellow
Weight per unit area	approx. 25 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Cell structure	fine to medium-sized pores

Comparative product:

Designation	PU foam
Material / Base	moisture-cure, one-component installation foam (in-situ foam) PUR based, colour: light yellow
Weight per unit area	approx. 22 kg/m <sup>3</sup>
Cell structure	fine to medium sized pores, mainly closed pores

### 3.2 Representation of test specimen

Fig. 1 shows a model of the test set-up.



Fig. 1 Test specimen

### 3. Procedure

#### 3.1 Sampling

The specimens were selected by the client.

Number	4
Delivered on	9 September 2008, by the client
Registration No.	24522/001 to 004
Preparation	The test specimens had been prepared by the client and were delivered ready for testing. Before the test the test specimens were conditioned at standard atmosphere (23°C / 50 % air humidity) for at least seven days.

#### 3.2 Test method

For the adhesion test, the test programme agreed was as follows: one test specimen of one foam type each was first exposed to mechanical load. The mechanical load was represented by a cyclical joint movement and applied at standard atmosphere. For this the PUR foam is compressed and extended in succession as a function of joint width (approx. 20 mm) by  $\pm 12.5\%$  (equal to  $\pm 2.5$  mm) and shear stress is applied to the joint in transverse and longitudinal direction.

Movement frequency was  $1.0 \text{ min}^{-1}$  comprising a total of 9,000 movements (3,000 cycles per direction of movement). The directions of movement are presented in Fig. 2.

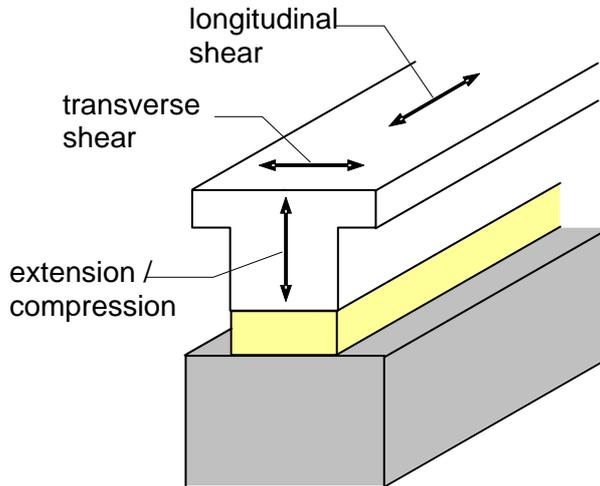


Fig. 2 Directions of movement for application of mechanical load

Fig. 3 shows an exemplary load cycle (plotter window showing 4 amplitude movements). Figs. 4 to 6 show the test set-up for the three directions of load application.

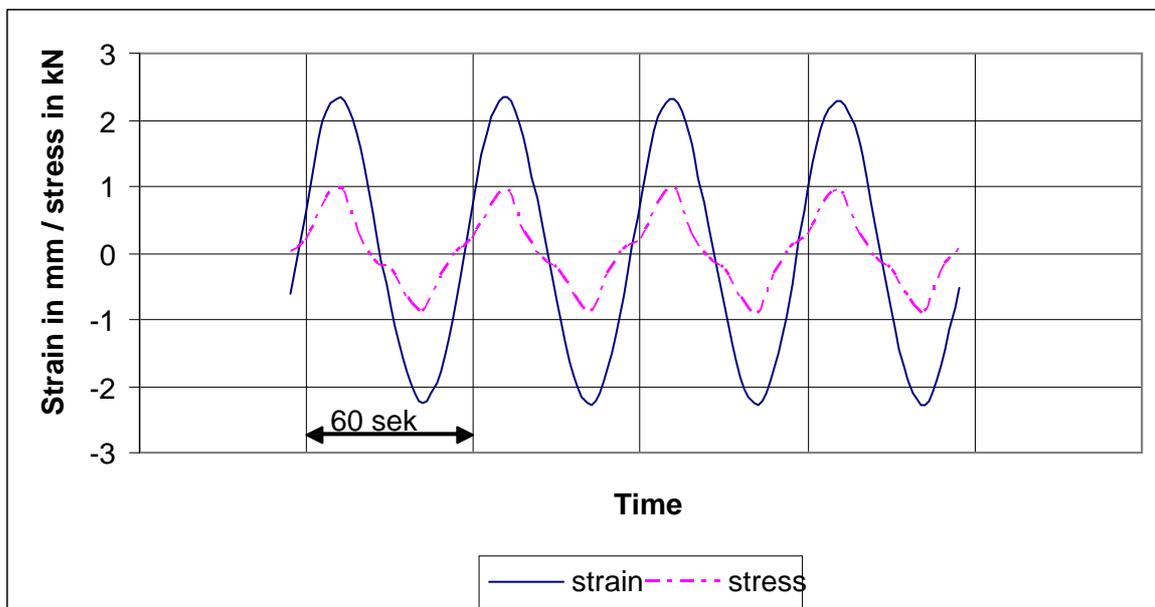
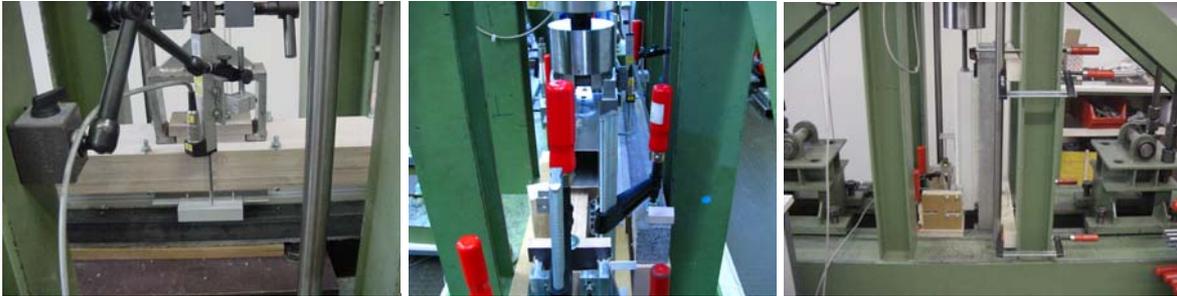


Fig. 3 Window of 4 amplitude movements from the load cycle



**Figs. 4 to 6** Test set-up for mechanical cyclical load application (extension/compression (left), transverse shear (centre) and longitudinal shear (right))

This is followed by determination of tensile strength by load application to the exposed test specimens and comparison with unexposed samples (initial state). The specimens are tested at standard atmosphere, applying a feed rate of 5 mm/min. For this the test specimens are cut into pieces of equal length by application of separating cuts in the area of the PVC profile and the foamed joint. In addition to strength the failure pattern is evaluated. Fig. 7 shows an example of the test set-up.



**Fig. 7** Test set-up for tensile test

### 3.3 Test equipment

**Table 1** Test equipment

Type of test	Test equipment	Device No.
Pre-conditioning	Standard atmosphere chamber	22040
Mechanical alternating load	Materials testing machine II as per DIN EN ISO 7500-1	22500
Tensile test	Materials testing machine I as per DIN EN ISO 7500-1 Calliper gauge	22933 22413

### 3.4 Testing

Date/Period 7 January to 16 March 2009  
 Test engineer/s Robert Happach  
 Wolfgang Jehl, Dipl.-Ing. (FH)

## 4. Results

### 4.1 Alternating mechanical load

Table 2 below sums up the findings and results of testing.

**Table 2** Summary of results

No	Type of test	Amplitude movement *	Cycles	Findings
FLEXISCHAUM (effective joint width b = 18,4 mm)				
1	Extension/compression	± 2.3 mm	3000	No detachments or crack formation in the area of the foamed joint
2	Transverse shear	± 2.3 mm	3000	No detachments or crack formation in the area of the foamed joint
3	Longitudinal shear	± 2.3 mm	3000	No detachments or crack formation in the area of the foamed joint
Comparative product (actual joint width w = 20.0 mm)				
1	Extension/compression	± 2.5 mm	2719	After 2,719 cycles continuous foam breakage, test aborted
2	Transverse shear	--	--	not tested
3	Longitudinal shear	--	--	not tested
*) 12.5 % of effective joint width				

After a total of 9,000 cycles, the product FLEXISCHAUM did not show any apparent damage in the area of the foamed joint.

After approx. 1,500 cycles, the foamed joint of the comparative product showed initiation of crack formation as a result of extension and compression. After 2,719 cycles continuous foam breakage was detected. The test was aborted.

#### 4.2 Tensile test, comparative test of unexposed/exposed specimens

Tables 3 and 4 below sum up the detailed values referring to tensile strength obtained from exposed and unexposed specimens. The evaluation states the average and the standard deviations. The failure patterns are expressed as percentage of cohesive loss in the PUR foam and/or adhesive loss towards the PVC profile.

**Table 3** Results of testing unexposed specimens

Specimen No.	Tensile strength in N/mm <sup>2</sup>	Displacement in mm	Failure pattern, percentage of loss	
			Cohesion	Adhesion to PVC
1	0.0142	9.16	5 %	95 %
2	0.0241	10.81	10 %	90 %
3	0.0362	12.74	5 %	95 %
4	0.0284	11.80	5 %	95 %
5	0.0355	12.57	15 %	85 %
6	0.0330	13.02	5 %	95 %
7	0.0362	13.54	50 %	50 %
8	0.0367	12.24	45 %	55 %
9	0.0382	13.02	55 %	45 %
10	0.0366	13.15	60 %	40 %
Average value	0.0319	12.21	-	-
Standard deviation	0.0076	1.32	-	-

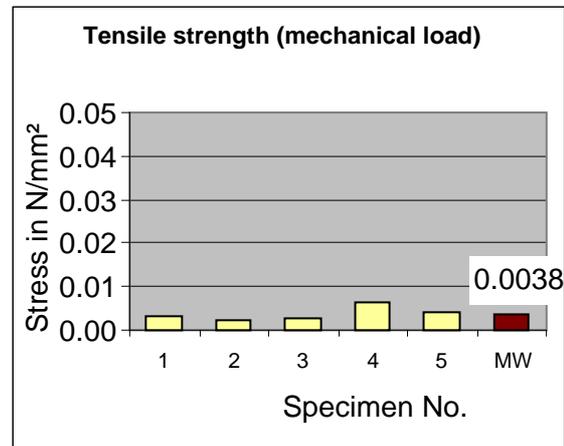
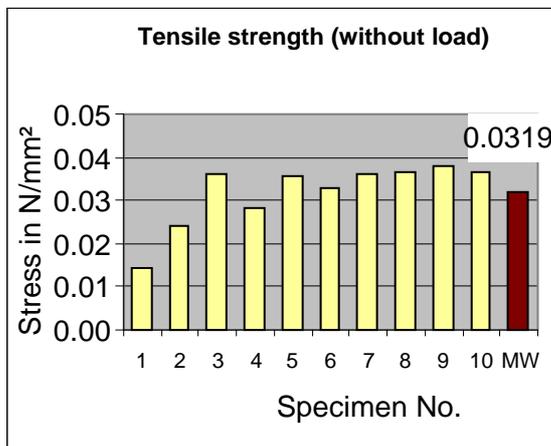
**Table 4** Results of testing exposed specimens

Specimen No. *)	Tensile strength in N/mm <sup>2</sup>	Displacement in mm	Failure pattern, percentage of loss	
			Cohesion	Adhesion to PVC
1	0.0032	3.33	95 %	5 %
2	0.0023	7.11	90 %	10 %
3	0.0026	7.47	65 %	35 %
4	0.0064	6.82	97 %	3 %
5	0.0043	7.16	94 %	6 %
Average value	0.0038	6.38	-	-
Standard deviation	0.0017	1.72	-	-

\*) The number of test specimens decreased to 5, because the test specimen had to be cut to 500mm in length for mounting in the testing apparatus for the longitudinal shear test

**Comparison of results obtained from unexposed/exposed specimens**

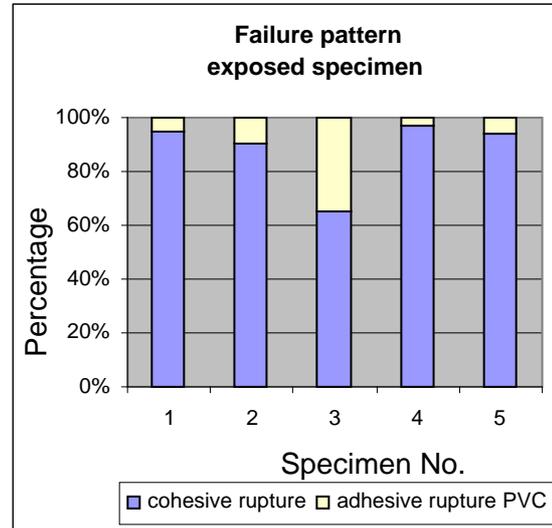
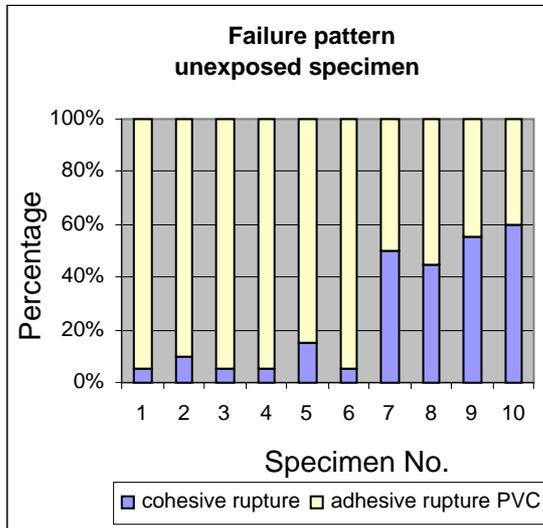
The following diagrams 1 and 2 plot the results of tensile testing obtained from the two tests.



**Diagrams 1 and 2** Tensile strength of unexposed specimen and specimen exposed to mechanical load (column MW = average value)

Following ageing by application of mechanical load, the average tensile strength of the test specimens had decreased considerably. As compared to the unexposed specimen the deviation was -91.6%.

Diagrams 3 and 4 plot the evaluated failure patterns (percentage of cohesive-/adhesive loss) of the unexposed and exposed test specimens.



**Diagrams 3 and 4** Plot of failure patterns of unexposed specimen and specimen exposed to mechanical load.

When comparing the failure patterns of the exposed and unexposed specimens, it results that the types of failure are different. The unexposed specimens show an interference with lower percentage of cohesive failure in the PUR foam and high percentage of adhesive loss towards the PVC profile, whereas the type of failure of the exposed specimens is mainly cohesive loss in the PUR foam. A negative impact on the adhesion of the PUR foam to the substrate caused by the mechanical load cannot be seen.

## 5. Notes on using ift-Test Documents

The enclosed Guidance-Sheet "Conditions and Guidance for the Use of ift Test Documents" lays down the rules for using the test reports.

Translation of Test Report 105 35276 dated 26 May 2009.

ift Rosenheim  
 31 August 2009



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