

Carpet protection tape

Low cost, easy to install floor covering protects aircraft carpets during maintenance activities.

The problem

Interior carpeting represents a significant cost to BA. During scheduled maintenance and repair, harm to carpets was occurring thanks to contamination from repair materials, physical damage and the transport of debris onto the aircraft. BA had an inconsistent approach to the

protection of carpets during maintenance activities, using a variety of single use and repeated use coverings, some of which presented a slip or trip hazard and some of which actually resulted in additional debris being brought into the aircraft. Single use materials also represented a major source of waste for disposal by the airline

The solution

Working with 3M, BA identified a new carpet protection system based on 3M 5038A polythene film. The new film has a low tack adhesive that bonds well to the full range of flooring materials used in BA aircraft, including new nylon carpets that had proved difficult to bond to. The film has excellent friction characteristics, making it safe to walk on even when wet and despite its low thickness, it offers better puncture resistance than the previously used disposable film product.

The new film is also supplied in reverse-wound rolls, with the adhesive on the outside for faster deployment and the reduced thickness substantially cuts the volume of waste material generated during maintenance activities.



Carpet Protection Tape applied to Boeing 757 under maintenance

The value

BA uses more than 200 rolls of the new carpet protection tape every year across its maintenance facilities. In purchase cost alone, these tapes have reduced expenditure by 60 per cent. They have also contributed to reduced cleaning and carpet replacement costs, lower volumes of waste and improved health and safety performance during on-aircraft maintenance operations.

Carpet Protection Tape - typical usage