



## 3M News

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**3M STUDY ADDRESSES HORSE STRESS AND DISCOMFORT DURING TRANSPORT**  
*VHB Tape from 3M Helps Significantly Reduce Sound and Vibration in Smooth-Sided Trailer Designs*

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – May 1, 2006 – 3M released a study today in response to concerns among veterinarians and horse owners about the stress their animals endure every time they are transported. The study showed that horse trailers made with VHB Tape from 3M are up to 41 percent quieter at highway speeds and vibration was reduced up to 30 percent compared to trailers made with traditional mechanical fasteners.

Veterinarians, like Dr. Justin Janssen, Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) and a board member of the American Association of Equine Practitioners, say any reduction in noise and vibrations in a horse trailer would be a great benefit to the horse and its owner.

“Certainly we see that noise has a big impact on horses. These animals are much more sensitive to noise than what we as humans appreciate,” says Janssen. “Even a five to 10 percent decrease in noise would be very significant to a horse. For this study to show more than a 40 percent reduction in noise with 3M’s product, that’s phenomenal.”

Dr. Nancy Loving, DVM, Boulder, Colo., echoed Janssen. “Any time you have excessive road noise or vibration in a horse trailer, I think the horse experiences some stress. That can lead to fatigue, both muscular and mental,” said Loving. “Reduction of noise or vibrations should benefit horses in transit. Anything we can do to make our animals more comfortable while traveling is a step in the right direction.”

Dr. Bob Racich, DVM, River Falls, Wis., said the findings make perfect sense. “The less moving parts you have, the less noise you have. With the VHB Tape you have continuous adhesion instead of rivets and you don’t get wear like you do with rivets.”