

HOW TO...

Apply glass management extrication

Packexe SMASH, a new innovation in time critical glass management, secures glass for controlled vehicle extrication. The self-adhesive film holds glass fragments in place, protecting both the casualty and rescue teams from further injury. The adhesive film is designed to work with and complement the current procedures used by brigades. In this step-by-step guide, F&R demonstrates how the product is best used.

Test results show that the strength of glass is almost doubled with the application of Packexe SMASH, reducing the risk of breakage by approximately 42%. By reinforcing the glass, Packexe eliminates the need to always forcibly break and remove glass. Upon applying the film to all glass deemed as a risk, the glass becomes managed. Glass can stay in situ whilst using cutting tools, and should it break under pressure, Packexe SMASH will hold it in place. As glass fragments are bonded in one piece with the adhesive film, glass can be easily removed and disposed of.

Tests are currently being drawn together to assess the extent to which Packexe SMASH reduces the noise of glass breaking, after it has been put under pressure or tension from the impact of a road traffic collision. Successful results will have significant implications for casualty welfare during extrication.

Since its launch only eight months ago, the product

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Packexe around the world

As part of a world tour Packexe SMASH can be seen on stand number 1435 at the FDIC, 2-24 April 2010 (Indiana Convention Center, Indianapolis), and stand G58, Hall 2, Interschutz, 7-12 June 2010 (Leipzig Exhibition Center, Germany). The company also plans to attend a number of extrication challenges across the world, including the North American Challenge and the World Rescue Challenge.



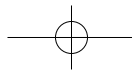
1. Start: the film must be sticky-side up, over the leading roller.



2. Application: both rollers must stay in contact with the glass.



3. Full and smooth coverage ensures optimum performance.



film during vehicle



4. Secure roll with both thumbs, hold one side firmly against the surface.



7. Removing glass: cut the film around the edge of the window seal.



5. Break away with the opposite side, finding the perforation in the film.



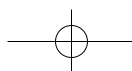
8. Use a glove protector to remove the glass in one piece.



6. Process: Packexe Smash manages glass and can be left in situ.



9. Replacing the roll: pop the roll out and replace with a new one.



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GLASS MANAGEMENT DURING EXTRICATION

Rescue saws with an edge

Cutters Edge offers two choices of Diamond Blades that fit all rotary saws and are available in 12" (305 mm), 14" (355 mm) and 16" (406 mm) sizes, plus a 4.5" (114 mm) size for all angle grinders.

Both blades use an advanced vacuum brazing process to permanently fuse the cutting diamonds to the substrate, yet leave 30% more diamond cutting surface exposed for a longer life.

Representative of the company Terry Singleton explains: "The Black Lightning offers the fastest cutting speed and the versatility to cut any material, wet or dry. The Black Lightning cuts in either rotational direction and lasts longer than 100 composite blades. "The Black Star offers outstanding blade life, with the highest concentration of cutting diamonds and the versatility to cut any material, wet or dry, without changing blades." Cutters Edge Diamond Blade will last longer than 150 composite blades." Cutters Edge Diamond Blades and the new generation of rotary and fire rescue saws will be on show at the FDIC in Indianapolis – booth 8970 – in the Lucas Oil Stadium.



is being evaluated by fire and rescue services all over the world, including North America, Hungary, Germany and Republic of Ireland.

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Lt. Jeff Pugh, President of the Puyallup Fire Extrication Team in Washington, USA, commented: "The product is quick to apply, offers up to 40% additional strength to the glass and enables windows to be either left in place when making extrication cuts or complete one piece removal. The fact that effects of silica dust and shattered glass are removed from the extrication equation coupled with less abrupt noise for the patient and rescuers is critical and Packexe Smash provides those elements.

"The adhesive used in the product had no issues with humidity or water on the glass. We have made Packexe SMASH part of our tool cache and will continue to use these products as we teach extrication across North America."

The specifically designed dispenser and perforated film allow quick application to side windows, rear windows and sunroofs, by just one person. The Packexe SMASH kit also comes with a hand-held roll for creating internal windscreen cells. By securing the film to each "A" post and to the dashboard, the casualty can be protected from glass dust and fragments as firefighters saw through the windscreen. An absorbent cloth and squeegee aid the use of Packexe SMASH in wet weather conditions, as excess water should be removed and then Packexe SMASH should be applied from further down the metal work before meeting the glass. A safety knife is also included to assist the technique of glass removal. After applying the film it should be cut around the edges of the glass before breakage, ensuring easy removal in one piece.

And that's it!

