

# PLEXUS MA560

**Description** Plexus® MA560 is a two-part methacrylate adhesive designed for structural bonding of thermoplastic, metal, and composite assemblies<sup>1</sup>. Combined at a 1:1 ratio, MA560 has a working time of 55 to 70 minutes at room temperature and achieves 75% of ultimate strength in 160 to 190 minutes. This product has been designed for use on large structures where a very long open time product is needed. Plexus MA560 is commonly used for bonding stringers and liners into large fiberglass boats with bond lines up to 25mm thick. In addition, this product provides a unique combination of excellent fatigue endurance, outstanding impact resistance, and superior toughness. Plexus MA560 is available in 200 litre drums to be dispensed as a non-sagging gel using standard meter-mix equipment.

Characteristics	Room Temperature Cure	
	▪ Working Time <sup>2</sup>	55 - 70 minutes
	▪ Fixture Time <sup>3</sup>	160 - 190 minutes
	▪ Operating Temperature	-55°C to 121°C <sup>7</sup>
	▪ Gap Filling	1 - 25mm <sup>8</sup>
	▪ Mixed Density	0.95 g/cc
	▪ Flash Point	11°C

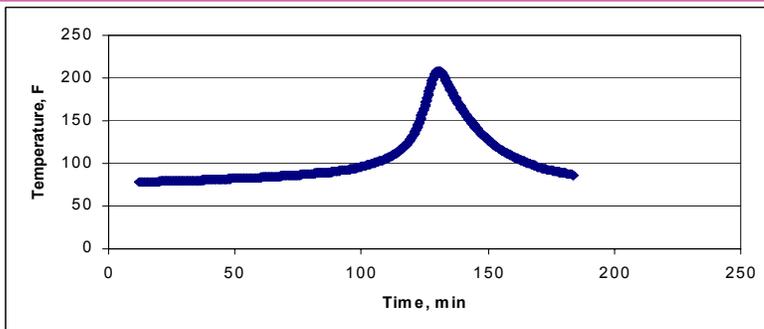
Chemical Resistance <sup>4</sup>	Excellent resistance to:	Susceptible to:
	▪ Hydrocarbons	▪ Polar Solvents
	▪ Acids and Bases (3-10 pH)	▪ Strong Acids and Bases
	▪ Salt Solutions	

Physical Properties (uncured) – Room Temperature	Adhesive	Activator
Viscosity, cP	175,000-220,000	175,000-220,000
Color	White	Black
Density, g/cc	0.95	0.95
Mix Ratio by Volume	1	1
Mix Ratio by Weight	1	1

Mechanical Properties (Cured) Room Temperature	Tensile (ASTM D638)
	▪ Strength, MPa 17.2 – 20.6
	▪ Modulus, MPa 275 - 345
	▪ Strain to Failure (%) 150 – 180

Recommended for:	▪ ABS	▪ PVC	▪ Styrenics
	▪ Acrylics	▪ Polyesters	▪ Urethanes (general)
	▪ FRP	(including DCPD modified)	▪ Vinyl Esters
	▪ Gelcoats <sup>6</sup>		

Lap Shear (ASTM D1002)	Cohesive Strength MPa	9.6 - 11
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Typical Exotherm Curve for MA560 at 23°C (30 grams)<sup>5</sup>

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## HANDLING AND APPLICATION

Plexus® MA560 adhesive (Part A) and activator (Part B) are flammable. Contents include Methacrylate Ester. Keep containers closed after use. Wear gloves and safety glasses to avoid skin and eye contact. Wash with soap and water after skin contact. In case of eye contact, flush with water for 15 minutes and get medical attention. Harmful if swallowed. Keep out of reach of children. Keep away from heat, sparks, and open flames. For more complete health and safety information contact ITW Plexus for a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS).

**Note:** Because of the rapid curing features of this product, large amounts of heat are generated when large masses of material are mixed at one time. The heat generated by the exotherm resulting from the mixing of large masses of adhesive can result in the release of entrapped air, steam, and volatile gases. To prevent this, use only enough material as needed for use within the working time for the product and confine gap thickness to no more than 25mm. Questions relative to handling and applications should be directed to ITW Plexus at +44 (0)870 458 758

## DISPENSING ADHESIVE

MA560 may be applied manually or with automated equipment. Automated application may be accomplished with a variety of 1 to 1 meter mix equipment delivering both components to a static mixer. For information concerning meter-mix equipment, contact ITW Plexus Sales Representatives. To assure maximum bond strength, surfaces must be mated within the specified working time. Use sufficient material to ensure the joint is completely filled when parts are mated and clamped. All adhesive application, part positioning, and fixturing should occur *before* the working time of the mix has expired. After indicated working time, parts must remain undisturbed until the fixture time is reached. Automated equipment should be constructed of stainless steel or aluminum. Avoid contact with copper or copper containing alloys in all fittings, pumps, etc.. Seals and gaskets should be made of Teflon, Teflon-coated PVC foam, ethylene/propylene or polyethylene. Avoid the use of Viton, BUNA-N, Neoprene or other elastomers for seals and gaskets. Clean-up is easiest *before* the adhesive has cured. Citrus terpene or N-methyl pyrrolidone (NMP) containing cleaners and degreasers can be used for best results. If the adhesive is already cured, careful scraping, followed by a solvent wipe may be the most effective method of clean-up.

## EFFECT OF TEMPERATURE

Application of adhesive at temperatures between 18°C and 26°C will ensure proper cure. Temperatures below 18°C will slow cure speed; above 26°C will increase cure speed. The viscosities of Parts A and B of this adhesive are affected by temperature. To ensure consistent dispensing in meter-mix equipment, adhesive and activator temperatures should be held reasonably constant throughout the year.

## STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

Shelf life of MA560 adhesive and activator is 6 months from day of shipment from ITW Plexus. Shelf life is based on continuous storage between 12°C and 23°C. Long term exposure above 23°C will reduce the shelf life of these materials. Shelf life can be extended by refrigeration (7°C - 12°C). These products should never be frozen.

**For expiry date please see label on packaging**

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## Notes

1. ITW Plexus strongly recommends that all substrates be tested with the selected adhesive in the anticipated service conditions to determine suitability.
2. **Working Time:** The time elapsed between the moment Parts A and B of the adhesive system are combined and thoroughly mixed and the time when the adhesive is no longer useable. Times presented were tested at 23°C.
3. **Fixture Time:** The interval of time after which surface being joined will support a 1 kg dead weight on a 12.7 mm overlap joint 25.4 mm wide without movement. Times presented were tested at 23°C.
4. Resistance to chemical exposure varies greatly based on several parameters including; temperature, concentration, bondline thickness, and duration of exposure. The chemical resistance guidelines listed assume long term exposures at ambient conditions.
5. In a typical bond line, exotherm temperatures will be lower than the temperatures shown.
6. Urethane-modified super-weathering gelcoats may require an alternate adhesive. As with all substrates, these gelcoats should be tested with the selected adhesive to determine suitability.
7. Consult with Plexus for values at a specific temperature. All adhesives soften with temperature and should be evaluated at expected conditions.
8. Please contact ITW Plexus for bond gaps below the recommended minimum.

All information on this data sheet is based on laboratory testing and is not intended for design purposes. ITW Plexus makes no representations or warranties of any kind concerning this data. Due to variance of storage, handling and application of these materials, ITW Plexus cannot accept liability for results obtained.

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