

# 3A COMPOSITES



# GATOR®

## HEAVY-DUTY FOAM BOARDS

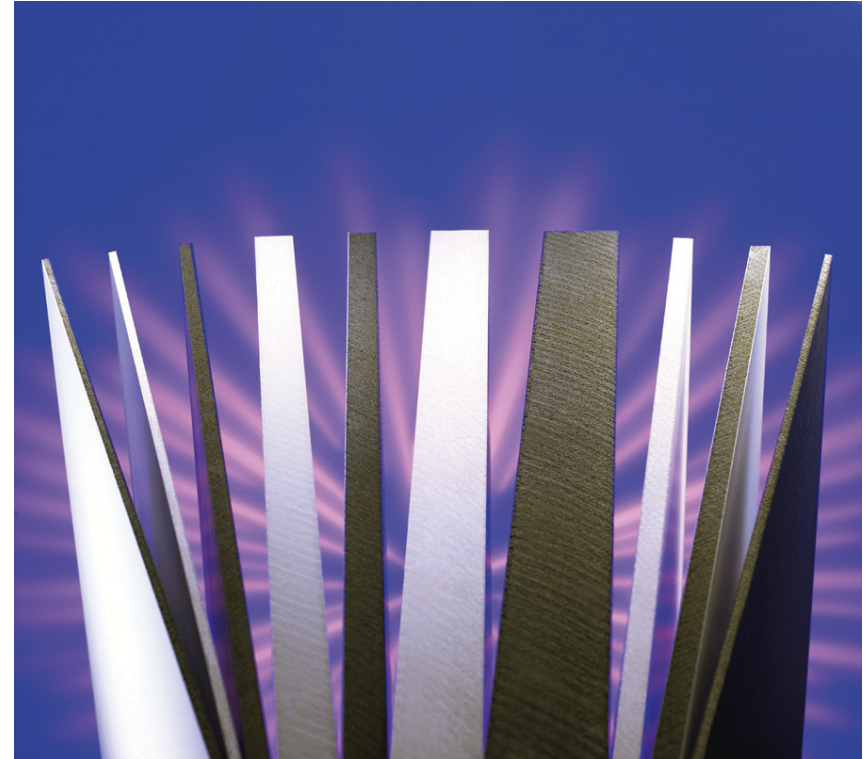
Sales Training Presentation by 3A Composites  
Level 201



- Welcome to the Sales Training Presentation by 3A Composites
- In this 201 level regarding the Gator<sup>®</sup> heavy-duty foam board product family, you will learn the answers to the most frequently asked questions about this material.
- These questions refer to general Gator fabrication techniques; more information can be found in the Gator fabrication manual online at [www.GatorfoamUSA.com](http://www.GatorfoamUSA.com).

# What are Gator<sup>®</sup> Products?

- Gator<sup>®</sup> products are for jobs requiring tougher surfaces. Gator products range from veneer facers, plastic facers and no facers.
- Product names include
  - Gatorfoam<sup>®</sup>
  - Gatorplast<sup>®</sup>
  - Gatorblanks<sup>®</sup>



# How do I fabricate Gator products?

- Please refer to the Gator® Fabrication Guide as we build the grid over our next few slides

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatofoam	Fabrication
				Mounting
				Repositioning Vinyl
				Direct Digital Printing
				Direct Screenprinting
1	1	1	1	Painting
				Knife Cutting
				Saw Cutting
				Routing
	2			Die Cutting
				Embossing
				Forming Curves
				Framing

# Mounting

- Can Gator<sup>®</sup> products be mounted?
  - Gatorfoam<sup>®</sup>
  - Gatorplast<sup>®</sup>
  - Gatorblanks<sup>®</sup>

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatofoam	
				Fabrication
				Mounting

# Repositioning Vinyl

- Can you reposition vinyl over Gator® products?
  - On Gatorplast® only
  - If you make a mistake while mounting vinyl on Gatorplast, you can remove it and reposition the graphics a second time without harming the substrate's surface

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatofoam	
				Fabrication
				Mounting
				Repositioning Vinyl

# Direct Digital Printing

- Is direct digital printing recommended over Gator<sup>®</sup> products?
  - Yes, direct digital printing is recommended over Gatorfoam<sup>®</sup> and Gatorplast<sup>®</sup>, but not Gatorblanks<sup>®</sup>

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatorfoam	
				<b>Fabrication</b>
				<b>Mounting</b>
				<b>Repositioning Vinyl</b>
				<b>Direct Digital Printing</b>

# Direct Screenprinting

- Can Gator® products be screenprinted?
  - Yes, all Gator products except Gatorblanks® can be screenprinted
- Do the facers of Gator products have to be primed or pre-coated prior to screen or digital printing operations?
  - No, the surfaces can be printed or screened directly.

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatofoam	
				<b>Fabrication</b>
				<b>Mounting</b>
				<b>Repositioning Vinyl</b>
				<b>Direct Digital Printing</b>
				<b>Direct Screenprinting</b>



# Painting

- What kinds of inks can I paint Gator® products with?
  - All types of paints, including latex, oil-based or acrylic paints can be used, but special care must be taken so that solvent-based inks do not touch the core of any of the Gator products

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatofoam	
				<b>Fabrication</b>
				<b>Mounting</b>
				<b>Repositioning Vinyl</b>
				<b>Direct Digital Printing</b>
				<b>Direct Screenprinting</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Painting</b>

# Knife and Saw Cutting

- Can all Gator<sup>®</sup> products be cut with a knife?
  - Gatorfoam<sup>®</sup> cannot be cut with a knife, but Gatorblanks<sup>®</sup> and Gatorplast<sup>®</sup> can.
- All Gator products can be cut with a saw

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatorfoam	
				<b>Fabrication</b>
				<b>Mounting</b>
				<b>Repositioning Vinyl</b>
				<b>Direct Digital Printing</b>
				<b>Direct Screenprinting</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Painting</b>
				<b>Knife Cutting</b>
				<b>Saw Cutting</b>
				<b>Routing</b>

# Routing

- Can Gator® products be routed?
  - Detailed shapes and contours can be made on all Gator products using a router, both hand router or CNC.

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				Mounting
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1	1	1	1	Painting
				Knife Cutting
				Saw Cutting
				Routing

# Die Cutting

- Can Gator<sup>®</sup> products be die cut?
  - Gatorplast<sup>®</sup> can be die cut in all gauges
  - Die cutting is not recommended on Gatorfoam<sup>®</sup> or Gatorblanks<sup>®</sup>

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatorfoam	
				Fabrication
				Mounting
				Repositioning Vinyl
				Direct Digital Printing
				Direct Screenprinting
1	1	1	1	Painting
				Knife Cutting
				Saw Cutting
				Routing
	2			Die Cutting

# Embossing, Forming Curves, and Framing

- Gator® products cannot be embossed due to its tough facers
- Curves cannot be formed
- Framing is recommended for all products except Gatorplast®

Gatorblanks	Gatorlite	Gatorplast	Gatofoam	Fabrication
				Mounting
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				Direct Screenprinting
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				Saw Cutting
				Routing
	2			Die Cutting
				Embossing
				Forming Curves
				Framing

# Outdoor Usage

- Can Gator® Products be used outdoors?
  - Gatorplast® – No
  - Gatorblanks® - Yes
  - Gatorfoam®
    - White – Yes
    - Natural – Yes
    - Black – No

Applications	POP Displays	Exhibits & Kiosks	Framing	Framing - Archival	Signage - Interior	Signage - Exterior	Signage - Structural
Gatorblanks®	M	M			M	M	
GatorLite™	M	M	L		M		
Gatorplast®	M	M			M		
Gatorfoam®	M	M	L		M	M1	

M Medium-term application life  
M1 Short-term application life. Black Gatorfoam is not recommended for outdoor usage.  
L Long-term application life

# Gator<sup>®</sup> Selling Points

- Gatorfoam<sup>®</sup> is the original heavy-duty foam board for Graphic Arts
- Gatorfoam performs very well, and has an excellent product reputation
- New bright white Gatorfoam is well liked for direct printing
- Large format capabilities on Gatorfoam of up to 5' x 10'
- It will not deform, delaminate, or warp
- Excellent for free-standing signage

# THE END

**For more UPDATED and detailed information on fabricating this product you can refer to the Gator<sup>®</sup> Fabrication Manual – available on-line at:**

**[www.GatorfoamUSA.com](http://www.GatorfoamUSA.com)**

**or by calling**

**800.626.3365.**