

# Vinyl Application Manual

This document describes two main decal application procedures, that should have beautiful and long lasting results.

## A. Wet Application

*Wet application is method, where the substrate is made wet prior application of the sticker. This enables to move or remove the sticker during application procedure if needed. With wet application, there is reduced risk of having air bubbles under the sticker. It is suitable to use with larger stickers, when the air temperature is above 18°C (decals take more time to stick to substrate in lower temperatures).*

- 1. Clean the application area** thoroughly. The area should be dust and grease free.
- 2.** Mark the application area with a masking tape.
- 3.** Decals have usually three layers when sent to customers. The top layer is an application paper or -film (also called application tape), that is used to paste all parts of the sticker on the substrate at once. In the middle is the decal itself and at the bottom is a liner. **Scrape the application tape with a squeegee** or other handy tool (for example credit card) in order to stick the application tape onto the decal.
- 4. Spray soap and water mixture onto the application area.** Ideal soap and water ratio is about 1:25. Soap in the liquid is necessary to move the sticker on the substrate if there is a need. Pure water is not slippery enough, too much soap is not good too (as it may wash off the glue).
- 5. Remove the liner** and spray some soap-water onto the decal. Do not be afraid of making it too wet, eventually the decal will still bond with the substrate.
- 6. Place the decal onto the substrate.** Thanks to the soap-water the decal can be moved, removed and replaced if necessary.
- 7.** If you are pleased with the position, take the spacial squeegee or other handy tool and **push the air and liquid out from the behind the decal.** Start from the middle and move towards edges.
- 8. Remove the application tape,** pulling it down and back over itself with a 45 degree angle (do not lift) as soon as the decal has adhered to the substrate. Adherence may take a few minutes up to 1 day, depending on the size of the sticker, substrate, temperature and quantity of the soap in the water.
- 9. Squeegee the decal one last time** to press the decal onto the application surface. If there is some trapped air under the decal, use a pin to let the air out and squeegee the area one more time.

## B. Dry Application with "Hinging"

*Dry application is so called regular method, where the sticker is put on a clean and dry surface. It is suitable to use, if the temperature is too low for the wet application, if application film is used instead of -paper (smaller decals) or the decal is with striped adhesive that prevents forming air bubbles under the decal.*

- 1. Clean the application area thoroughly.**
- 2.** Mark the application area with a masking tape or pen.
- 3. Scrape the application tape with a squeegee** or other handy tool.
- 4.** Place the decal onto the substrate and **apply masking tape over the center of the decal,** so that it forms a hinge.
- 5. Remove the liner from under the one side of the decal.**
- 6.** Squeegee one half of the decal onto the substrate. Start from the hinge and move towards edges.
- 7.** Remove the masking tape used as a hinge.
- 8. Remove the rest of the liner** and squeegee the remaining part of the decal onto the substrate. Start from the center and move towards edges.
- 9. Remove the application tape.**
- 10. Squeegee the decal one last time** to press the decal onto the application surface. If there is some trapped air under the decal, use a pin to let the air out and squeegee the area one more time.

## Removal of The Decals

It is easier to remove our decals when they are preheated. Use a heat gun to make the sticker warm and pull the sticker off the surface. Adhesive that is used on the vinyl should not leave any residue. However, if there are any traces of glue, then it can be cleaned with a silicone remover.

