

## Fleet Vinyl Graphic Removal

**DuraVinyl™ 706 VelociWrap** films are engineered for easy removal, lasting up to five years when aided by gentle heat. Applying a laminate makes the graphics stronger, which allows them to come off more smoothly. Without lamination or when only a UV clear coat is used, the film has less durability and may tear more often during removal.

### **STEP 1: Ideal temperature for removing the film**

- 1) The vehicle should be at between 50°F and 110°F
- 2) If necessary, pull the vehicle into a warm area or use an area heater.

### **STEP 2: Removing the film**

- 1) Too much heat makes removal more difficult. Over 120°F may result in the vinyl tearing into small pieces and adhesive transfer. Ideal temperature for removal: 90° - 110°F.
- 2) Working in a 3' x 3' area or less, warm the film up to the desired temperature.
- 3) Lift one edge and pull slowly and evenly away from the application surface at a 90° or less, angle.
- 4) If corrugations are involved, working parallel to the corrugations, instead of perpendicular makes removal much easier.
- 5) Continue working in relatively small areas to best control the heat, making sure not to overheat the films, until all the graphics have been removed.

★ **Hint:** Professionals suggest scoring the vinyl along the corrugations and removing the film in narrow widths, thus reducing the stress on the film and resulting in a nice easy and clean removal.

### **STEP 3: Removal of any residual adhesive**

- 1) DuraVinyl films are designed for clean removability when the previous steps are properly followed. Occasionally there may be some small amounts of adhesive residue left behind which can be removed with isopropyl alcohol or other chemical designed just for this purpose.
- 2) Metallic films like gold, silver, and reflective films tear easily and chemical assistance can help.
- 3) If you choose to use other vinyl or adhesive removers **use caution:** Some of the chemicals may be harmful to the surface of the vehicle. We recommend a test to determine suitability first.
- 4) Follow the chemical manufacturer's guidelines for personal protection, ventilation, use and disposal.

### **OTHER OPTIONS - Some alternate adhesive removal products on the market include:**

- 1) *Vinyl Erasers:* These are wheels that attach to electric drills and 'rub' the vinyl off without harming the surface underneath. These are usually very good tools for small jobs like stripes. Because the 'Erasers' wear down fairly rapidly, larger jobs could get expensive.
- 2) *Power washing:* For smaller jobs or those where most of the adhesive has come off with the vinyl, power washing is a simple solution

#### **STEP 4: Final surface cleaning**

After removing all adhesive residue, thoroughly clean the surface again to eliminate any remaining cleaner or residue before applying the next graphic.

If there's any doubt about cleanliness, give it one more wash - taking a little extra time now helps prevent issues later.

