

**READ ALL PRECAUTIONS & INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY
BEFORE OPERATING LAMINATOR**

Setup

Instruction

Operation

Lamination

Maintenance

Premier 4 Laminator

Operation Manual
Version 3.0
2013

IMPORTANT: Don't laminate one-of-a-kind documents unless you are sure of your laminating skills and can afford to damage or ruin the document.

Don't laminate valuable items such as stamps, baseball cards, autographs, or other collectibles because the value of such items can be destroyed by lamination. Collectors generally value these kinds of items only in their original state.

Remember that you cannot laminate thermal paper because it is activated by heat and will turn black. Also, remove paper clips and staples because they can damage the rubber rollers. Be careful about laminating anything that will be affected by heat. For example, the colors in crayon drawings may run together or be smeared, especially if the crayon layer is heavy. Light crayon drawings may not be affected, but test an expendable sample of any item that may not laminate well.

IMPORTANT: *Éviter de plastifier du papier thermosensible puisqu'il noircira sous l'effet de la chaleur, et enlever les trombones et les agrafes qui risquent d'endommager les rouleaux de caoutchouc. Prendre certaines précautions avant de plastifier des articles susceptibles de réagir à la chaleur comme les dessins au pastel dont les couleurs baver et se mélanger, surtout si la couche de pastel est épaisse. Les pastels en couche mince peuvent ne pas réagir, mais, en cas de doute, il est préférable de faire un essai avec un échantillon perdu.*

Ne pas plastifier les documents importants dont il n'existe qu'un seul exemplaire, à moins de bien maîtriser la technique de plastification.

Ne pas plastifier non plus les articles de collection comme les timbres, les cartes de baseball, les autographes ou autres, qui peuvent perdre leur valeur pour les collectionneurs s'ils ne sont plus dans leur état d'origine.

IMPORTANTE: *Recuerde que no puede laminar papel térmico ya que es activado por el calor y se tornará negro. Retire también cualquier sujetapapeles o grapa, puesto que pueden dañar los rodillos de goma. Evite laminar cosas sensibles al calor, por ejemplo, los colores de dibujos hechos en lápiz de pastel pueden no ser afectados, pero ensaye con alguna muestra descartable, en los ítemes que podrían no laminarse bien.*

No lamine ningún documento único, a no ser que esté muy seguro de sus habilidades de laminador y pueda permitirse arruinar el documento.

No lamine artículos de valor, como estampillas, tarjetas de béisbol, autógrafos, u otros coleccionables, ya que su valor puede ser destruido por la laminación. En general, las coleccionistas valoran este tipo de artículo en su estado original.

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Glossary Of Symbols

Part No

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1-1 INTRODUCTION

This laminator is designed to provide quality lamination for a wide range of papers and materials up to 1/8-inch thick using film up to 10 mils thick. Common applications include maps, digital images, packaging, posters, instructional aids, signs, presentation materials, photographs, copies (B&W or color), prints, flyers, promotional sheets, and many other items. Options include a footage counter and a roll feed.

To assure the best performance from your new laminator, please follow the safety, installation, operation, and maintenance instructions in this manual. Read the manual before using the laminator, keep the manual with the machine, and periodically review the instructions. The manual also contains warranty and parts information.

The international “HOT” warning symbol is placed on the appropriate areas of each laminator.

Le symbole international de mise en garde “CHALEUR EXTREME” sera apposé aux endroits appropriés des machines a plastifier thermiques.

El simbolo internacional de advertencia “CALIENTE” será fijado en los lugares apropiados, en el plastificador.

Thank you for selecting the LEDCO Premier 4 laminator. We are committed to your satisfaction with our products.

As you unpack your new laminator, please complete the following information. Always have this information ready when calling.

Purchased From _____

Installation Date _____ Serial # _____ (back of the laminator)

- [**WARNING:** High temperatures are present and care should be exercised in operating the laminator. The laminator should not be operated without the plexiglass safety shield in place.
- [**MISE EN GARDE:** *La machine à plastifier produit beaucoup de chaleur et on doit l'utiliser avec prudence. Ne pas utiliser la machine à plastifier sans son écran protecteur en plexiglass.*
- [**ADVERTENCIA:** *El plastificador produce temperaturas muy altas; tenga cuidado al utilizarlo. No utilice el plastificado sin tener el protector de plexiglass en su lugar.*

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1-2 FEATURES & BENEFITS

Your new laminator has several standard features that set it apart from other models.

- [**Variable speed** The laminator operates at any speed up to 7 feet per minute. Thicker films are generally applied better at mid-range to lower speeds, while 1.5-mil film should be applied at mid-range to higher speeds.
- [**LCD temperature display** makes it easy to set and maintain the correct temperature. The indicator light inside the heat switch comes on as the machine warms up. When set temperature is reached, the indicator light turns off.
- [**Simple controls** Conveniently placed switches provide a compact, reliable control pad. Icons and international symbols are used for controls and safety warnings.
- [**Slitters** The slitters remove the side scrap from both sides of each sheet as it goes through the laminator. This greatly reduces the amount of time required for trimming.
- [**Easy threading** Since threading can be the most difficult task in using a laminator, the Premier 4 has built in threading aids. The top idler is guarded from the top heat shoe for safety and easy threading. The bottom idler is attached to the feed tray. Once the upper and lower webs of film have been run through the machine, bottom idler threading is automatic when the operator puts the feed tray on the machine.
- [**Forced air-cooling** allows laminating with thicker films. Without a cooling system, thicker films will warp or ripple because they are still too hot when they come out the back of the laminator. The three fans in the 25-inch Premier 4 provide a more effective cooling system than any other machine in its class.
- [**Ease of cleaning** The silicone rubber rollers and the Teflon-coated heat shoes on the laminator should be cleaned regularly.
- [**Attached safety shield** The polycarbonate shield is clear so operators can see their work. It does not conduct heat, providing protection from hot areas, and it's fixed to the machine so operators will naturally put it in the guard position before laminating.
- [**Lamination pressure** The rubber rollers are spring-loaded and preset to ensure correct and even lamination pressure. The pressure is easy to adjust if required when performing routine maintenance.
- [**Supply roll tension controls** Supply roll tension is easy to adjust by simply tightening or loosening the tension control knobs on the supply roll mandrels.
- [**Resettable fuse** The machine can be reset using the push button fuse reset located in the back of the machine above the plug receptacle. (See Section 3, Product Illustrations and Names of Parts.)
- [**Ease of maintenance** The Premier 4 is made to last; however, some items on a laminator do wear out. Even the high-quality silicone rubber used in the rollers will lose

flexibility over time. Extensive use may wear out the rollers, or an operator may accidentally cut a roller. Rollers and other key parts can be changed quickly without disassembling the frame.

- [**Reverse can** be invaluable at times to help avoid problems or clear misfeeds.
- [**Right and left adjustable feed guides** help to feed the graphics into the rollers in a consistent manner.
- [**Silicone rubber laminating rollers** are flexible enough to provide a good edge seal and firm enough to offer a good surface seal. A high silicone content insures a much longer average roller life.
- [**Very strong steel cores** prevent roller flexing and insure uniform pressure across the width of the laminate, giving you the best quality lamination available in a medium-duty commercial machine.
- [**Zippy safety cutter is** shipped with the laminator to allow quick and easy cutting and trimming of the lamination web.
- [**Controls to open and close the laminating rollers** make threading easier and allow even heating of laminating rollers during warm-up.
- [**Removable power cord** prevents unauthorized usage without locking away the whole machine.
- [**Proudly made in the USA**
- [**ETL and CE approved for use in USA and Canada (220v version)**

1-3 OPTIONS

Although the Premier 4 was designed to include all of the standard features mentioned above, there are options available to make the Premier 4 even more versatile.

- [Resettable **footage counter** measures film usage in feet; also available in a metric version.
- [**Roll feed tray** It is difficult to hand feed a long item such as a banner it into the laminator perfectly straight. When the banner is rolled onto an empty film core and put onto the roll feed assembly, laminating the longest item becomes relatively easy. The roll feed is especially helpful for posters, banners, and other long items.

1-4 SPECIFICATIONS*

Laminating width	up to 25"
Speed	up to 7 feet per minute (fpm)

Laminating roller diameter	1.25"
Maximum film thickness	10 mils
Maximum film roll diameter	5.5"
Maximum laminating thickness	1/8"
Dimensions	32L x 11H x 14W
Shipping dimensions	34L x 16H x 18W
Weight / shipping weight	75 lbs/84 lbs.
Electrical – 110v version	110-125v, 15 amps 1300w, 50/60 Hz
Electrical – 220v version	208-240v, 6.5 amps 1300w, 50/60 Hz
Film roll core size	1"
Maximum 1.5-mil film capacity	1000 ft.
Maximum 3-mil film capacity	500 ft.
Fusing	Drive motor .75 amp Heat system 1.5 amp

**** Specifications are subject to change without notice***

1-5 PRINCIPLES OF OPERATION

The laminator operates by pulling film with a thermally activated adhesive over a heat source and into a set of laminating rollers. Film from a supply roll passes over heat shoes to activate a polyethylene adhesive layer on the film. It then passes through rubber rollers to apply pressure and bond the film to the item being laminated. The film's adhesive is pressed into the ink and fibers on the surface of the paper.

The strength of the lamination bond can be checked by cutting a large "X" on the surface of a laminated sample with a sharp blade. Use the tip of the blade to pry up one corner of the "X". Grab that corner and pull up the film. Ink and/or paper fibers coming up with the layer of film indicates a good adhesive bond.

If the film comes up too easily, with no ink or paper, the lamination was probably done at too low a temperature. Check the instructions that may have come with your laminating film and/or the lamination temperature chart in section 5-5.

Please note that when doing an X-test on glossy (coated) paper, a good X-test will pull up ink only. The film should not come up easily. When laminating material that is not glossy (uncoated), the paper is often more fibrous, and a good X-test will yield ink and paper fibers coming up with the film.

1-6 LAMINATING FILM

Most thermal laminating film consists of two layers: a base of polyester and an adhesive layer of polyethylene. The polyester layer forms the harder outer surface of the film and does not melt at laminating temperature. It provides rigidity and protection for your laminated items. The greater the polyester content, the higher the level of protection, rigidity and luster. The polyethylene layer melts at laminating temperature and bonds the film to the subject material under the pressure of the laminating rollers. As an X-test demonstrates, the adhesive is pressed into the paper and fills irregularities in the surface.

The proportion of polyester and polyethylene in a film is usually described with numbers. For example, a "1-2" film consists of one mil of polyester and two mils of polyethylene. The first number refers to the base layer. The second number refers to the adhesive layer. A mil is 1/1000 of an inch.

Since polyester is the more costly of the two types of plastic generally used in laminating film, a "3-2" film will cost more than a "2-3" film. Both are 5-mil films but the "3-2" version will seem a little thicker on a piece of laminated material because it will be slightly stiffer. Thermal laminating films are available in many different base/adhesive combinations. Five-mil film, for example, can be found in 1-4, 2-3, 3-2, and 4-1 combinations.

In the US laminating trade, the generally accepted practice is to describe two-sided lamination, or encapsulation, by the thickness of one layer of film. For example, “3-mil lamination” generally means lamination with two layers of 3-mil film. If you are buying or selling laminating film or lamination services, please make sure both parties understand the film descriptions being used.

There is a large variety of thermal laminating films available to suit many different kinds of applications. Some of the more commonly used “special” film types or film additives are:

- [film with low-melt adhesives, also known as co-polymer films; these often have better clarity and are less likely to curl or ripple
- [matte films to eliminate glare or to accept printing or writing; many suppliers offer films with both glossy and matte (non-glare) finishes
- [film with UV inhibitors to protect colors in the laminated material from fading in sunlight
- [thermal film incorporating a pressure-sensitive adhesive and a release liner on its outer side to permit, for example, a poster with this material laminated on the back to be mounted easily without fasteners or tape
- [high clarity films, some of which include a protective liner on the top outer surface, which is removed by the recipient to reveal a surface perfectly free of dust, scratches, or abrasion.
- [opaque or colored films for the back side of a lamination to form a border on a laminated piece.
- [iridescent clear films for special visual effects
- [permanently waterproof films for outdoor, underwater, or special applications. The most common thermal laminating films are made with water-based primers and will eventually delaminate if continually exposed to water or weather; truly waterproof films are made with special primers.

Rolls of film may be purchased in different widths. The size of the laminator is the only limitation to the width of the film rolls you can use. The Premier 4 can use 4-, 12-, 18-, or 25-inch rolls. Make sure the upper and lower roll widths are the same and are aligned with each other.

Film rolls are also produced in various lengths (250', 500', 1000'). The Premier 4 will easily accommodate film rolls up to a 5-1/2" diameter.

When installing film, always center the rolls of film on the supply roll mandrels so the core grippers engage the cardboard core. Look for the score marks around the supply roll mandrels to aid in aligning the top and bottom rolls.

We recommend 3-mil film for most common applications, including posters, signs or instructional aids. The 3-mil film provides better protection, more rigidity, and a more lustrous

appearance than 1.5-mil film. Five-mil or 10-mil film is suggested for those applications that need the most protection and rigidity.

Lamination with 1.5-mil film can sometimes present problems because the film is so thin it loses heat easily. It sounds backwards, but 1.5-mil film has to be run at a higher temperature than a 3-mil film with the same adhesive. The higher temperature compensates for the faster rate of heat loss during lamination. A standard 3-mil film is applied at approximately 240≥ F, while a standard 1.5-mil film must be applied at around 260≥ F. Even when applied at 280≥ F, a 1.5-mil film is still more likely to delaminate later.

If the item being laminated is fairly thick, it will pull heat from the film. This will lower the temperature of the 1.5-mil film and prevent it from sticking properly. When laminating thick items with standard 1.5-mil film, it may be necessary to raise the temperature to 280≥ F or 300≥ F. Do not use any higher temperature for any film than is needed to get an acceptable degree of adhesion, as measured by an X-test. Remember there are low-temperature films that should run at much lower temperatures than those cited in this example. (See Section 5-5, Recommended Temperature Settings.)

Rolls of film are sometimes spliced. Most film suppliers will mark a splice with colored tape. This way, you can see the splice as a “dash” of color on either end of the roll. If you spot a spliced roll in advance, you can put it on the top supply roll mandrel in order to see the splice coming more easily and avoid putting material under the splice. Alternatively, you could put it on the bottom roll if you plan to be laminating items that will never be seen from the back side.

1-7 WARRANTY

This laminator is guaranteed against defects in material and workmanship for a period of **two years** after date of shipment. Defective parts will be replaced without cost within the warranty period, provided the laminator has not been abused, altered, or operated contrary to instructions. **Our warranty does not cover user errors.** LEDCO, Inc. shall not be liable for any alterations or repairs except those made with its written consent; or for any problems, damage, or injury resulting from unauthorized alternation or repair.

This obligation under warranty shall not extend to the following:

- [The adjustment or replacement of parts which are the normal responsibility of the owner. For example, fuses, rubber rollers, heat shoe coatings, scratched or chipped paint, loose fasteners (screws, nuts, etc.), or other items that show wear under normal use; i.e. "normal wear parts."
- [Clearing or replacing rollers due to "wraparounds" as this is caused by improper loading and/or operator error.
- [Normal operating adjustments to heat, speed, tension, etc.
- [Parts that are not manufactured by LEDCO, Inc. If the individual manufacturer warrants these items, their warranty is, in turn, passed on to the original purchaser of the laminator. LEDCO, Inc. does not incur any obligation or liability as a result of the warranties that are the sole responsibility of the appropriate individual manufacturer.

Any laminator that proves defective during the warranty period may be returned to LEDCO, Inc. unless it is decided that the necessary repairs can be made during a service call. Notice of the defect must be submitted in writing or by phone to LEDCO before any steps are taken to repair or return the machine. Phone: 585-367-2392 Fax: 585-367-2978

Note: Customers who return machines to LEDCO or receive field service on machines that are found to be operating improperly due to user error or use of inferior film will incur service and/or shipping charges. Please call for assistance first!!

If the machine is returned, the following must accompany it.

- [Customer name, address and phone number
- [Written particulars regarding the malfunction
- [Date of installation
- [Serial number of the machine.
- [**All returns must include a return authorization number provided by LEDCO, Inc. on the outside of the shipping container.** Send all returned equipment freight PREPAID to:
LEDCO, Inc., 4265 North Main Street, Hemlock, NY 14466
Tel: 585-367-2392 ≥ Fax: 585-367-2978 ≥ email: service@LEDCOinc.com

If your machine needs servicing after the warranty has expired, please contact your dealer. LEDCO, Inc. offers technical support if your dealer is unable to assist. Further, this warranty does not apply to any machine or part thereof which has been damaged in shipping (e.g., dropped) or as a result of an accident (e.g., fire, flood, power

surge, etc); or operates improperly as a result of an operator's abuse, misuse, or neglect of the machine. The warranty is also void if the laminator has been altered or repaired by anyone other than a LEDCO-authorized repair facility, dealer, or representative.

This warranty is expressly in lieu of all other warranties expressed or implied, including the warranties of merchantability and fitness for use and of all other obligations or liabilities of LEDCO, Inc. LEDCO, Inc. neither assumes nor authorizes any other person to assume any other obligation or liability in connection with the sale of this laminator except as provided for above.

2 UNPACKING AND INVENTORY

WHILE UNPACKING YOUR MACHINE: Using the handles on both ends of the machine, lift as carefully and evenly as possible to avoid breaking off the heat control knob.

Except for the supply roll mandrels and feed tray, the laminator is assembled at the factory. Upon arrival, inspect the unit immediately and thoroughly using the packing list that accompanies the shipment. Please follow these steps to address any problem with your shipment. LEDCO, Inc. cannot accept any responsibility for damage or loss unless you notify us within 10 days of receipt of shipment and follow these procedures:

BREAKAGE OR DAMAGE: It is imperative that any shipping damage is reported and a claim is filed with the delivering carrier immediately upon receipt of damaged shipment. The procedure for reporting damage depends on the method of shipment. Please note any damage on bill of lading.

FREIGHT, EXPRESS, or TRUCK DELIVERY: According to the contract terms and conditions of the carrier, the responsibility of the shipper ends at the time and place of shipment. The carrier then assumes full responsibility for the shipment.

1. Notify LEDCO **IMMEDIATELY**.
2. Hold damaged goods with container and all packing materials for inspection by the examining agent. LEDCO will arrange the inspection.
3. **DO NOT RETURN ANY GOODS TO LEDCO PRIOR TO AUTHORIZATION BY LEDCO.**
4. Submit a copy of the inspector's report to LEDCO. LEDCO or your authorized LEDCO dealer will file the claim with the carrier. LEDCO will replace your machinery if necessary. You will be credited for the damaged machinery when the claim is processed.

SHORTAGE:

1. Check the packing list notations. The apparent shortage may have been marked as an intentional short-shipped (back-ordered) item.
2. Re-inspect the container and packing material carefully, particularly for smaller items.
3. Make certain that unauthorized personnel did not remove item(s) and inventory prior to complete unpacking.
4. Call us, and send immediate written notification of the shortage.

INCORRECT SHIPMENT:

1. If the material you receive does not correspond with your order, notify LEDCO immediately. Include the order number and item(s).
2. Hold item(s) until return instructions are received.

RETURNS: DO NOT RETURN DAMAGED OR INCORRECT ITEMS UNTIL YOU HAVE RECEIVED SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS AND AN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER FROM LEDCO.

3 PRODUCT ILLUSTRATIONS & NAMES OF PARTS

The following photos identify major components and operating controls. Refer to them as you study the installation, operating, and maintenance procedures described in this manual.

The machine can be reset using the push button fuse located on the back of the machine above the plug receptacle. Push the button in to reset the fuse and continue running the machine

4 SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

DANGER

1. **High temperatures are present and care should be exercised in operating and maintaining the laminator. Even after the machine has been turned off, it will remain hot for an extended period of time. Contact with hot surfaces may cause burns.**

***MISE EN GARDE!** Etant donné les températures élevées produites par cette machine à plastifier, on doit user de prudence lors de son utilisation et de son entretien. Même une fois l'alimentation électrique coupée, la machine demeure chaude longtemps. Éviter tout contact avec les surfaces chaudes, qui peuvent causer des brûlures.*

***PELIGRO!** Hay temperaturas altas aquí y debe tenerse cuidado durante la operación y el mantenimiento del plastificador. Aún después de haber sido desconectado, el plastificador permanecerá caliente durante un período prolongado. El contacto con las superficies calientes puede causar quemaduras.*

2. Always make sure the power cord is not placed under the laminator where it might get overheated from proximity to the bottom heat shoe.

On doit éviter que le cordon d'alimentation ne passe sous la machine et soit exposé à la chaleur élevée produite par le sabot chauffant inférieur.

Asegúrese que el cordón eléctrico nunca esté debajo del plastificador, donde podría ser recalentado debido a la proximidad de la zapata calefactora inferior.

3. **The safety shield must remain attached to the machine and in position any time there is power to the machine.** You may tip the safety shield up while loading the film. Always make sure the rollers are NOT turning when the safety shield is flipped down.

***MISE EN GARDE!** L'écran de sécurité doit être monté sur la machine en tout temps quand elle est sous tension. On peut relever l'écran pour charger la pellicule. Toujours s'assurer que les rouleaux ne tournent PAS avant de relever l'écran.*

***PELIGRO!** La pantalla protectora debe quedar fija a la máquina y puesta de manera que la máquina siempre reciba energía. Puede levantar la pantalla protectora mientras carga la película. Asegúrese de que los rodillos NO estén funcionando cuando se saca la pantalla protectora.*

4. **Never operate the laminator wearing neckties, jewelry, or loose clothing. Tie back long hair. If caught, these items can be pulled in by the laminator, causing serious injury.**

MISE EN GARDE! Attacher les cheveux longs et ne jamais porter de cravate, de bijoux ou de vêtements amples quand on utilise la machine à plastifier, qui risquait de les entraîner et de causer ainsi des blessures graves.

PELIGRO! Nunca opere el laminador usando corbatas, joyas o ropa holgada. Amárrese el pelo largo. Estos objetos se pueden enredar en el laminador y causar un dano serio.

5-1 UNPACKING AND INVENTORY

With the laminator on an unobstructed, level surface, perform the following checkout before threading the machine with film.

WARNING: Make sure the power cord is clear of the underside of the machine prior to operation to avoid overheating the cord.

MISE EN GARDE: *S'assurer que le cordon d'alimentation ne passe pas sous la machine, ce qui l'exposerait à la chaleur élevée produite par le sabot inférieur.*

ADVERTENCIA: *Antes de operar la máquina, asegúrese que el cordón eléctrico no está debajo de la misma, para evitar el recalentamiento del cordón.*

1. Remove all packing straps, rubber bands, tape, and plastic ties from the machine. Remove the protective paper from the safety shield.
2. Make sure the heat, fan, and drive switches are off before you plug in the machine. The fan and heat switches are labeled accordingly. "0" indicates the off position. The drive switch positions for forward and reverse are labeled. The reverse position is momentary and will turn off when released. The speed control is directly above the temperature indicator and is labeled with a hare and a tortoise.
3. Plug the machine into a working outlet of at least 15 amps. Plugging in the machine does not power on any control unless a switch has been left on. Plug in the machine and turn on the heat. The heat indicator lamp in the heat switch will come on. It will stay on until the machine has reached set temperature.

Adjust the heat controls.

To raise temperature:

- [Press red button once to display set point value screen
- [Press red button again to raise set point value
- [Hold red button to raise set point value rapidly
- [Wait five seconds for actual temperature to display

To lower temperature:

- [Press red button once to access set point value screen
- [Press blue button to lower set point value
- [Hold blue button to decrease set point rapidly
- [Wait five seconds for actual temperature to display

To switch from Fahrenheit to Celsius:

- [Hold blue button for five seconds
- [Use red button to change from degrees F to degrees C
- [Wait five seconds for actual temperature to display

4. Always leave the rollers open when you turn off the machine. Close the rollers when you are going to thread the machine.
5. Once the heat is turned on, it will stay on until the switch is manually turned off. There is no automatic shutoff on this machine, except in the case of a blown fuse.

6. When the laminator has reached the set temperature, press the forward drive switch to the on position. The pull rollers and the laminating rollers should rotate. Insert the white threading card into the nip (laminating) rollers. Let the threading card pass through the laminating rollers and then the pull rollers, exiting at the rear of the laminator.
7. Press the stop switch.
8. Turn the fan OFF.
9. Turn the heat OFF and unplug the machine.

PLEASE NOTE:

The fans should be turned on for any laminating with 3-mil or thicker film. The Premier 4 is made to run film up to 10 mils thick. Speed must be reduced with thicker film to insure adequate heating and cooling of the film. The machine's cooling capacity can be exceeded before its heating capacity, especially if the slitters are being used.

Top speed on the Premier 4 is about 7 feet per minute. When the indicator line on the speed control is pointing straight up, that's half speed, or about three (3) feet per minute.

Five feet per minute is a typical speed for running 3-mil or 5-mil film, although either can be run faster or slower. Thin film (1.5-mil or 1.7-mil) can be run from five to seven feet per minute, and should not be run slowly. Thicker films (7- or 10-mil) should be run at two or three feet per minute. Remember to turn on the fans while laminating with 3-mil and thicker films.

5-2 THREADING the LAMINATOR

1. Although this machine can be threaded cold, most operators feel it's easier to thread while it is warming up or already hot. The Premier 4 was designed to allow the operator to safely and easily thread the laminator while it is hot. A threading finger guard near the top idler bar helps to pass the film safely and easily under the top idler bar.
2. Remove the supply roll mandrels and the feed tray. The supply roll mandrels are now ready to accept loading of the film rolls, wound with the polyester (shiny) side out. When viewed from the front of the machine, the core grippers on both the top and bottom supply roll mandrels should point toward the heat shoes (and toward each other). The tension control knobs should be positioned on the right. If you have rolls of film on which the material is wound in the opposite direction (adhesive or dull side out), simply reverse the rolls. The mandrels are universal and will work either on the top or bottom of the machine.
3. Slide a roll of film onto the top supply roll mandrel, turning the roll slightly to slide the gripper inside the core. Center the roll. Make sure the dull side of the film is facing up and the shiny side is facing the heat shoes during the threading. Be sure to align the two rolls of film so the edges match each other.
4. The pointed metal piece protruding from the center of the supply roll mandrels grips the cardboard core of the film supply roll to prevent slippage.
5. With the roll aligned, place it in the top bracket. Place the left side of the shaft in its slot first, then place the right side of the shaft in its slot, turning it as needed. ***Follow the recommended loading procedures carefully when threading film in the laminator. Accurate alignment of the rolls will minimize waste and help keep the laminator clean.***
6. Review the threading diagram. Run the film from the top mandrel under the idler bar and drape it across the top heat shoe. This is easier because of the **threading finger guard** located under the idler bar. **Remember that the shiny side of the film must always go against the shoe.** The dull (adhesive) side must face away from the shoe with the top roll of film centered on the mandrel and the shiny side facing down and draped over the top heat shoe.
7. Load the bottom roll of film onto the mandrel in the same manner as the top roll. Remember that the shiny side of the film must always go against the shoe. The dull (adhesive) side must face away from the shoe. Make sure the two rolls are aligned with each other before going to the next step. Now drape the film from the bottom roll against the film from the top roll on the top shoe. If the laminator is hot, the exposed adhesive on the top web will hold the bottom web and make it easy to stick

the two rolls together. If you are threading the machine while it is cold, use tape to stick the bottom web against the top web.

6. With both rolls threaded and installed in their respective brackets, unwind the top and bottom supply rolls about a half-turn each. This will provide enough slack in the web to allow the feed tray to slide on easily.

Remember that the bottom idler bar is attached to the feed tray. If there's no slack in the web, the feed tray will be difficult to put on.

9. Slide the feed tray into position.
10. Flip the safety shield down into the laminating position. Make sure there is still enough slack in the web. Close the laminating rollers with the large knob on the right side of the unit. With the film draped over the two heat shoes, push one edge of the threading card between the heat shoes so that the film is firmly positioned against the laminating rollers. Make sure the rubber rollers are in the closed position. If a threading card is not available, any piece of card stock or poster board will work.
11. Make sure the slitters are disengaged (blades in the raised position) and moved all the way to the sides of the machine. Push the forward drive switch. If the film and the card are in the nip (the point where the laminating rollers meet), the film and the threading card will start into the laminator and will pass through both sets of rubber rollers. When the threading card has cleared the back of the machine, move drive switch to off.

DANGER! The safety shield must be in position over the upper heat shoe whenever the rollers are turning or machine is heating. The laminator is designed to be run with operator directly in front and facing the control panel, not at an angle or from the side.

MISE IN GARDE! L'écran de sécurité doit recouvrir la plaque chauffante supérieure lorsque les rouleaux tournent or que la machine est en train de chauffer le materiau. La machine a plastifier est concue pour que l'opérateur se place directement en face du tableau de commande et non en biais par rapport a celui-ci, ou sur le cote.

PELIGRO! La pantalla protectora debe estar puesta sobre la placa termica superior cada vez que giren los rodillos o se caliente la maquina. El laminador esta disenado para que el operador lo haga funcionar directamente por delante mirando el panel de control, no en una esquina o desde u un costado.

5-3 FILM THREADING DIAGRAM

5-4 LAMINATING

1. If the machine is not already on and warmed up, first make sure the power cord is firmly attached and plugged in. Set the temperature, and turn on the machine and the heat.
2. The laminator will be ready to operate in about 15 minutes.

WARNING: Never permit the temperature to exceed 310° Fahrenheit while film is threaded and the laminator is not running. The film could disintegrate and require cleaning and rethreading of the machine. When it is necessary to laminate at temperatures in excess of 310° F, pull some excess film off the film supply rolls to provide slack so the film is not tight against the heat shoes while the machine is heating. This will keep the film from melting when the laminator is not advancing film.

3. The laminating rollers can be kept hot when the laminator is not in production by opening both sets of rollers. Put the drive direction switch in forward and turn the speed control to the minimum position. This allows the laminating rollers to turn and get evenly heated while the machine is warming up. Evenly heated rollers contribute to the quality of the lamination by eliminating possible imperfections in the finished lamination caused by “cold spots” on the laminating rollers.
4. Position the feed guides if needed for precision feeding. You will get the best results by centering items in the web of film.
5. Check and balance the supply roll tension on both rolls. Start by loosening both knobs until there is no pressure on the springs. Tighten each knob until it just begins to press on its spring. For a preliminary adjustment, put two turns of tension on each knob.
6. Once the machine has come up to temperature, you are ready to make final adjustments to the supply roll tension. With the heat ON, the rollers CLOSED, and the safety shield DOWN, push the FORWARD button. If using 3-mil or thicker film, also turn on the fans.

Watch the film as it passes over the heat shoes. If there is some waviness in the film at the leading edge of both shoes, supply roll tension is perfect. The leading edge is the top of the upper shoe and the bottom of the lower shoe, the edges that first contact the film. If there is no waviness in the film at all, there is too much supply roll tension. Loosen both knobs a small amount and check again.

If waviness or wrinkling extends more than halfway into the laminating rollers, tension needs to be increased. Always keep the amount of tension the same on both rolls. Waviness which extends across 10 to 30 percent of the shoes indicates acceptable supply roll tension.

7. When starting the machine to begin lamination, let at least 10 inches of film go through the rollers before inserting the items to be laminated. This takes out slack in

the film and removes the cooler strip of film that forms just in front of the nip when the laminator is hot but film is not being advanced. This also removes any areas of film with excess adhesive that may have pooled just beneath the shoes.

Examine the film coming out the back of the machine. If bubbles or wrinkles appear in the film, this means there is not enough tension to draw the film tight and smooth over the heat shoes. Turn the tension control knobs clockwise to increase the tension.

If the film is stretching and gets narrower as it goes across the shoes, supply roll tension is too high, and the temperature setting may also be too high for that film.

Film that is 1.5 mils thick requires very little tension.

REMEMBER TO TURN BOTH THE TOP AND BOTTOM TENSION CONTROL KNOBS THE SAME AMOUNT TO KEEP TENSION THE SAME ON TOP AND BOTTOM ROLLS. If the film curls up or down after it leaves the machine, read the above section on supply roll tension again and readjust the supply roll tension on both rolls.

If the tension appears balanced but you notice waves or ripples toward the center of the web of film as it comes out the back, the temperature may be too high or the lamination speed may be too high for that film. This type of wave in the film is called a "heat wrinkle." Heat wrinkles are formed when the film has not cooled enough before coming out the back of the machine. For the best results, the film should be cooled below melt temperature while it is pulled tight and perfectly flat between the laminating rollers and the pull rollers. If it gets out the back of the machine while still at or above melt temperature, heat wrinkles can form. **The major reason for fans on a laminator is to cool the film, not to cool the machine.**

8. Another reason the film needs to be cooled is so it can be trimmed cleanly by the slitters. If the film is too hot when the slitters are in use, the trimmed edge will be messy because of liquid adhesive hardening on the trimmed edges of the web. Adhesive will also build up on the knives and prevent them from trimming neatly.

To align the slitters blades to a particular job, start by positioning one or both guides to feed the work at the center of the web. Most operators find that they can get the most accurate sheet alignment by using only the left feed guide. Feed a test sheet from the job into the laminator and stop it when it is between the rollers.

Using the test sheet as a guide, position the slitters as required and engage them by popping the indentation on the blade holder onto the slitter guide bar. Run some more test sheets to make sure the feed guide and the slitters are positioned to get the results you want. Notice that unless the sheets are fed with the leading edge

perfectly parallel to the nip, the slitters cannot trim evenly. Printed materials are often not perfectly squared, so be prepared to change your adjustments several times to get the best results possible under the circumstances.

DANGER: Be very careful to keep your hands away from the slitter blades when working in the area between the two sets of rollers. When the slitters are not in use, keep the blades disengaged and slide them out of the way against the side panels of the laminator.

MISE EN GARDE: Prendre garde de ne pas approcher les mains des lames de la découpeuse lorsque vous avez à travailler entre les deux jeux de rouleaux. Lorsque la découpeuse ne sert pas, rentrer les lames dans leur support et les écarter contre les panneaux latéraux de la machine à plastifier.

PELIGRO! Use extrema precaución para evitar que sus manos entren en contacto con las láminas de corte, mientras trabaja en la zona entre los dos juegos de rodillos. Cuando las láminas de corte no están en uso, manténgalas desconectadas y delícelas fuera del camino, contra los paneles laterales del plastificador.

5-5 RECOMMENDED TEMPERATURE SETTINGS

Your laminator is set at approximately 240 degrees Fahrenheit at the factory. This is the recommended temperature setting for low-temperature 3-mil film. If you are laminating with a different film thickness, refer to the following table for recommended temperature settings.

Your first source of information about recommended film application temperatures and operating characteristics should be your film supplier. If you do not know the source of your film, or if the supplier cannot provide the information, please use the following table as a guide.

FILM MELT TEMPERATURE CHART (ALL FAHRENHEIT)

FILM TYPE	FILM THICKNESS		
	1.5- to 1.8-mil	3-mil	5- to 10-mil
Monopolymer	280≥ -300≥	280≥ -290≥	270≥ -280≥
Low-temp (copolymer)	240≥ -280≥	220≥ -270≥	220≥ -260≥
Ultra low-temp (copolymer)	230≥ -280≥	180≥ -270≥	180≥ -260≥

Several important notes about this chart:

1. Your film vendor has primary responsibility for providing information about the film that you are using. Note that lower grade films may require more heat and may not yield satisfactory results on porous stocks such as construction paper.
2. This chart is to serve as a general guide when better data is not available.
3. If your film vendor cannot provide information about the film you are using, it may be difficult to achieve good results.
4. When laminating heavy posters or other thick items with 1.5- to 1.8-mil films, some additional heat may be required to get a permanent bond; however, **never exceed 300 degrees Fahrenheit.**
5. While offset printed materials may be laminated at the lower ends of the above ranges, inkjet and other output from digital printers may require the upper end of the range in order to get a good bond.
6. See Section 1-6, Laminating Film, for more information.

Cooling Fans

The cooling fans on the Premier 4 are used during lamination with 3-mil, 5-mil, 7-mil, and 10-mil film. The fans cool the plastic as it leaves the laminating rollers and before it enters the pull rollers. As mentioned earlier, the fans prevent heat wrinkling and help insure lamination that is smooth and flat. The pull rollers on a Premier 4 turn a little faster than the laminating rollers, insuring that the film is perfectly flat while it is being cooled.

NOTE: It is possible that variances from recommended temperature settings may be necessary due to material thickness, ambient temperature, humidity, or the quality or thickness of the material being laminated.

Please note the wide range of temperatures listed, especially for heavier films. This does not mean any film that thick can be run anywhere within the given range. There are “standard” (high-temperature) and “low-melt” (low-temperature) versions of all film thicknesses. Some low-melt films work at lower temperatures than others. It is important you buy your film from a vendor who can tell you the following information about any film you choose:

- [the thickness
- [the clarity
- [suggested melt-temperature range
- [polyester/polyethylene content
- [how well the adhesive will stick to the kinds of images you’ll be protecting and enhancing

Temperatures may exceed 300° when laminating poster board or other thick items with 1.5-mil film on a continuous basis, but when the machine is stopped, turn the heat off if the setting is in excess of 310°. **Never set the heat above 300° with film in the laminator. Temperatures over 300° are not needed except with special use films. Film that is 3 mils or thicker is generally run at 280° or less.**

Special Note when using 10 mil films:

The Premier 4 is capable of laminating 10-mil films but is not designed as a continuous 10-mil production machine. Allow occasional cooling off periods when using film this heavy.

5-6 PREVENTING AND SOLVING PROBLEMS

PLEASE READ THIS SECTION BEFORE YOU HAVE A PROBLEM.

PROBLEM: *Material wrinkles as it goes into the laminating rollers. This problem usually occurs when laminating an item that has been folded, rolled, bent or wrinkled.*

SOLUTION: Make sure the leading edge of the item being laminated is lying flat and is inserted parallel to the laminating rollers.

It is sometimes essential to smooth out an item as it passes over the feed table and through the rollers to ensure an even lamination without wrinkles. Smooth from the center of the item back toward the trailing edges. Once the item starts to feed, you may also pull back and to the sides on the corners of the trailing edge.

If material has been rolled up, take the curl out of it on a table edge before laminating. If some curl remains, it may be helpful to insert the item with the curl down so the leading edge is pressed against the feed tray until just before the nip.

PROBLEM: *Film wrinkles around the material being laminated.*

SOLUTION: This is normal and inevitable on any laminator, especially with thicker material. These wrinkles will be trimmed away with the scrap so they do not affect appearance. Because the rollers are being held apart by the paper or cardboard, they cannot pull equally on the plastic around the paper. This creates wrinkles that tend to look like the bow waves of a boat, radiating out through the clear part of the web from the sheet of material.

PROBLEM: *When two pieces of material are laminated side by side, the plastic adheres to one piece but not the other.*

SOLUTION: To get maximum utilization from the film rolls, you can feed several items into the laminator side by side. However, wrinkling can occur if these items are of unequal thickness because the laminating rollers are lifted off the thinner items by the thicker items. When laminating items side by side, it is important to arrange them so that the thickness of the adjacent items is the same.

PROBLEM: *The plastic wrinkles on a laminated piece of material.*

SOLUTIONS: Make sure you have enough supply roll tension to take the wrinkles out of the film before it gets past the heat shoes (See Section 5-4, Laminating).

Make sure the film is threaded properly (See Section 5-2, Threading the Laminator).

PROBLEM: *Film gets wrapped around the pull rollers.*

SOLUTION: While threading a laminator when the shoes are cold, the loose ends of the unlaminated web are particularly susceptible to “wrap-around” on the rear rollers. To minimize this possibility, pull the threading card after it emerges from the pull rollers until the film clears the exit table. Open the rollers. Let the threading card hang from the back of the machine until the machine is warmed up; then close the rollers and run some film until a laminated web has started to emerge from the pull rollers. Stop the web and trim the film from the back of the unit.

If “wrap-around” does occur while the laminator is cold, you can easily correct it by reversing the direction of the rubber rolls, permitting the laminator to release the film from the rolls.

PROBLEM: *Film wraps around the laminating rollers while the machine is hot.*

SOLUTION: Leave the heat on so that the adhesive does not harden, and follow the following steps.

WARNING: Be very careful not to touch the heat shoes when the machine is hot.

MISE EN GARDE: *Ne pas toucher les sabots chauffants lorsque la machine est chaude.*

ADVERTENCIA: *No toque las zapatas calefactoras cuando la máquina está caliente.*

1. Remove the feed tray.
2. Cut the film on the top and bottom just in front of the idler bars.
3. Loosen the film from the heat shoes and grip the two loose ends, holding them together.
4. Turn the drive switch to the reverse position.
5. Turn on the drive at a very low speed and allow the laminator to back out the film that is wrapped around the rolls. Pull the film off the roller.

WARNING: Keeping the machine in reverse may cause a reverse wrap-around if the film is not getting pulled off the roller. You may need to pull on the film with a lot of force while stopping and starting the drive.

MISE EN GARDE: *Si l'on appuie trop longtemps sur l'interrupteur de marche arrière, le film risque de s'enrouler dans l'autre sens. Appuyer par à-coups sur l'interrupteur et vérifier le résultat chaque fois.*

ADVERTENCIA: *Apretar mucho tiempo el interruptor de marcha atrás puede causar bobinado inverso. Apriételo brevemente, luego suéltelo y observe el resultado. Apriételo nuevamente si se requiere más marcha atrás. Pare si nota que el plástico hala hacia atrás, volviendo sobre los rodillos.*

WARNING: Do not try to cut the plastic off the roller with a knife or other sharp instrument. You will end up cutting the rubber rollers and turn an inconvenience into a major repair bill not covered by warranty.

MISE EN GARGE: *Ne jamais tenter de dégager un film enroulé en le coupant avec une lame tranchante. Vous entaillerez le caoutchouc des rouleaux, ce qui occasionnera des frais majeurs de réparation qui ne sont pas couverts par la garantie.*

ADVERTENCIA: *No intente separar el plástico del rodillo cortando con un cuchillo u otro instrumento filoso. Terminará cortando los rodillos de goma y convertirá una incomodidad en una cuenta de reparaciones mayor, que no esta cubierta por la garantía.*

If this method does not work, let the machine cool completely. Remove the heat shoes and cut the wrap-around off the roller with a small pair of scissors, working the point and the cutting edges away from the rubber to avoid damaging the roller. Then clean the rollers per the instructions in the manual.

PROBLEM: *Not noticing that the rolls of film are almost used up (one roll of film always runs out before the other).*

WARNING: If film is run through the laminator without being matched to an opposing film, the adhesive exposed to the rubber rollers will stick to the laminating rollers and create a world-class wraparound. This type of wraparound is difficult to clear because the film adheres to the roller and to itself for the entire length of the accumulated film on the roller. It's best to clear this right away, before the adhesive hardens. Follow the steps above to clear.

MISE EN GARDE: *S'il n'y a qu'un film dans la machine, le coté adhésif, qui se trouvera contre le rouleau de plastification, y adhérerá, ce qui provoquera un enroulement "monstre: très difficile à défaire puisque le film adhère d'abord au rouleau, puis à lui-meme a mesure qu'il s'enroule. Il faut agir rapidement avant que la colle durcisse. Procéder de la facon indiquée ci-dessus pour régler le problème.*

ADVERTENCIA: *Si el plástico de uno de los rollos de abastecimiento pasa por el plastificador sin ser igualado por una película de plástico del rollo opuesto, el adhesivo expuesto a los rodillos de goma adherirá a los rodillos de laminación y causará un bucle monumental. Este tipo de bucle es muy difícil de deshacer porque el plástico adhiere tanto al rodillo como a sí mismo, a lo largo de toda la longitud de la película de plástico acumulada sobre el rodillo. Es mejor deshacerlo inmediatamente, antes de que endurezca el adhesivo. Siga los pasos indicados más arriba para lograrlo.*

SOLUTION: To avoid this problem, stop the laminator before either roll runs out, cut the webs of film, and remove the two near-empty rolls of film. Thread new rolls. When putting film on a laminator, always use two rolls of matched length and width.

Experienced users may leave the pieces of film remaining over the shoes and in the rollers to help thread the new film. When the machine is warm, the ends of the new rolls can be easily tacked to the already threaded pieces because the adhesive layer facing outwards will be sticky. Be careful not to burn yourself on the heat shoes.

PROBLEM: Film is not properly adhered or starts to come off some time after lamination.

SOLUTION: Unless there is something wrong with the film, this problem comes from film being run at too low a temperature. Check the heat setting on the laminator. If the film is not sticking to the item, it is likely that more heat is required.

If you are using 1.5-mil film, this problem can occur if you are running the machine too slowly. Because 1.5-mil film is thin and therefore loses heat easily, it can cool off too much between the heat shoes and the roller nip if it is run too slowly.

If you are running thicker films, you may have this problem if you try to go too fast. In this case, the thicker film may not have enough time on the heat shoes to reach its adhesive melt temperature. Thicker films may be run at low speeds with no problem.

When laminating posters or other thicker material with 1.5-mil film, the paper itself can absorb enough of the heat from the film to drop the adhesive below its melt temperature. The film may start to come off immediately, or it may start to fall off after a few days. The solution here is to run the work at a higher temperature. About 280° to 290 °F will usually do the job.

Sometimes you may see film detach from an item along one edge (the edge that was put in first). This happens when the material is put all the way into the nip before the machine is started. The area of film between the shoes and the nip can cool off too much while the machine is idle. The adhesive may not be hot enough to stick.

The way to prevent this is to let a few inches of film go through before putting in sheets to be laminated. This serves other purposes besides ensuring the front edge of the piece will be properly sealed: it gives the machine a chance to take up the slack that develops in the film whenever the machine is stopped, and it prevents the following problem as well.

PROBLEM: A laminated item comes out with a large “oily” spot on or near the leading edge.

SOLUTION: It's excess adhesive, not oil, that causes this effect. When a machine is left heated but idle for a few minutes or longer, the adhesive from the film over the shoes can form droplets if material is not put in immediately. This excess adhesive saturates an area of paper, creating what looks like an oily spot. The solution, as mentioned above, is just to let a few inches of film go through before feeding in your work.

Anytime you are laminating unfamiliar or costly items, it is a good idea to start with an expendable sample or test piece. Laminating a test piece first gives you an indication of the results you'll get and also takes care of any pooled adhesive.

PROBLEM: A milky or hazy line about an inch wide appears periodically across the width of the web immediately after initial warm-up.

SOLUTION: The rollers are not evenly heated, and the cold side of the rollers is preventing the adhesive from melting. When warming up the machine, keep the rollers open and keep the forward drive on at low speed.

PROBLEM: The machine produces a continuous squealing noise when laminating.

SOLUTION: To a certain extent, it is normal for some laminating film to squeal as it is pulled over the heat shoes under tension. This noise is produced via the same principles that make a violin squeal. Some of the compounds put on film to keep it from sticking to itself seem to act like resin on the bow of the violin -- they enhance the noise.

To minimize squealing, run the laminator with the least amount of supply roll tension that will do the job of removing wrinkles from the web of film. Make sure you are not using a higher temperature than needed, and clean the heat shoes periodically. If the noise gets really objectionable, use a different type or different brand of film.

PROBLEM: The laminated material seems to have a pitted or irregular surface that does not match the texture of the paper being coated.

SOLUTION: This is usually caused by adhesive build-up or dirt on the rubber rollers, but it may be caused by any matter stuck to the rollers, such as a piece of paper. Inspect the rubber rollers; if they are dirty, clean them as indicated in Section 7-3, Cleaning the Rubber Rollers.

Cuts or other damage to the rubber rollers, especially the laminating rollers, can also cause irregularities in the surface of the film. The pull rollers are identical to the laminating rollers and could be substituted if still in good condition.

PROBLEM: The film shrinks as it passed over the heat shoe (known as “necking” in the laminating trade).

SOLUTION: Reduce the heat and/or the supply roll tension. The film is not shrinking so much as it is being stretched by excess heat and tension, causing the web to get narrower as it is pulled over the shoes.

PROBLEM: No power is getting to the laminator.

SOLUTION: Make sure there is power at the electrical outlet being used, and make sure both ends of the power cord are firmly engaged. There are fuses inside the laminator, but dead outlets and loose power cord connections are the most common causes of this problem.

PROBLEM: Wavy or rippled sections in the laminate, especially toward the center of the web.

SOLUTION: These “heat wrinkles” are caused by excess temperature and/or speed for the film being used. Slow down the motor and/or use a lower appropriate temperature for that particular film.

PROBLEM: General haziness or cloudiness in the film after lamination.

SOLUTION: Increase the temperature. Cloudiness is a result of incomplete adhesion. On a variable speed machine loaded with thicker film, it may be that the film is being run too fast and is not getting enough time on the heat shoes.

PROBLEM: Bubbles in the center of the web and/or film not sticking to the center of an item.

SOLUTION: This problem can be caused by excessive laminating roll pressure. Putting too much pressure on the laminating rollers actually decreases pressure in the center of the web.

The other likely cause of this symptom is worn rollers. For example, if hundreds of thousands of 18-inch wide sheets are laminated on a 38-inch machine, the center of the rollers can get worn down more than the ends of the rollers. In this situation, the laminating rollers should be replaced. The rollers worn in this way are not suitable for use as pull rollers.

For problems not listed here, contact your LEDCO dealer. If the dealer doesn't know the answer, please ask the dealer to contact LEDCO and get back to you.

You are also welcome to contact us directly with any problem at (585) 367-2392; however, to minimize time and inconvenience, we encourage you to contact your dealer first.

6 INSTALLING AND USING OPTIONS

Although the Premier 4 was designed to include all of the standard features previously mentioned, there are options available to make the Premier 4 more versatile.

FOOTAGE COUNTER

Measures film usage in feet; also available in a metric version. To measure the use of film with the footage counter:

1. Set the wheel of the counter against the roll of film.
2. Press the reset button located next to the digital read out.
3. The counter will continue to measure the number of feet of film used unless or until the wheel is lifted off the roll of film.

ROLL FEED

It is nearly impossible to hand-feed very long items such as banners into a laminator perfectly straight. With the roll feed attachment, laminating the longest item becomes relatively easy. The roll feed is especially helpful for laminating posters, banners, and other large items

To laminate with the roll feed:

1. Roll up the item on an empty laminating film roll core, making sure it does not telescope. This insures it is rolled up perfectly straight.
2. Place the core on the roll feed mandrel. It doesn't matter if the image is face up or down since both sides of the item will get the same lamination. Use the tension knob to adjust for a moderate amount of unwind tension. Make sure that as the item unwinds, the direction of unwind allows the gripper on the mandrel to dig into the core and not slip on the core.
3. Feed the leading edge of the item under the feed assembly idler bar into the nip rollers just as if you were feeding an individual sheet. If you have enough blank paper ahead of the image portion of the item, cut the leading edge to a blunt point. This makes it easier to feed the item in without wrinkling.

An optional technique is to feed a sheet of scrap paper into the nip as a leader. Stop the leader when there is about two or three inches remaining outside the safety shield. Place the banner edge on the edge of the leader and tape it securely, then begin to laminate.

7 MAINTENANCE

There are no user-serviceable parts inside the machine. Please refer internal maintenance to qualified personnel.

DANGER: Always use extreme caution when performing maintenance on your machine! Always make sure the machine is unplugged and that there is NO power to the machine when working on or cleaning any part of the unit.

Use extreme caution to avoid hot surfaces, which may remain hot for a period of time even if there is NO POWER to your machine.

Use extreme caution to avoid pinch points at the nip of rubber rollers.

NEVER have rubber rollers turning while performing maintenance to your machine.

NEVER wear loose clothing, ties, or jewelry (which may become entangled in gears or rubber rollers) while operating or performing maintenance on your machine.

MISE EN GARDE: La prudence est de mise lorsque l'on effectue l'entretien de cette machine.

S'assurer que le cordon d'alimentation est débranché et que la machine est mise hors tension avant de toucher à des pièces internes.

Prendre garde aux surfaces chaudes. Ces surfaces demeurent chaudes longtemps après que le courant a été coupé.

Tenir les doigts et les objets loin des rouleaux de caoutchouc. Ne jamais faire tourner les rouleaux pendant l'entretien de la machine.

Ne jamais porter de vêtements amples, de cravate ou de bijoux, etc. (ces articles peuvent être happés par les engrenages ou les rouleaux de caoutchouc).

PELIGRO: Sea extremadamente cuidadoso siempre que realice tareas de mantenimiento en su maquina.

Asegúrese siempre que la máquina está desenchufada y que no hay NINGUNA energía aplicada a la máquina, mientras esté trabajando con partes internas de la máquina.

Sea extremadamente cuidadoso en evitar superficies calientes, que pueden permanecer calientes durante cierto tiempo, aún después de estar cortada la corriente.

Tenga sumo cuidado en evitar puntos de constricción en las pasadas de los rodillos de goma. Nunca tenga los rodillos de goma en movimiento mientras realiza trabajos de mantenimiento en su máquina.

Nunca vista ropa suelta, corbata o joyas (que pueden ser atrapadas por engranajes o rodillos de goma) mientras está realizando trabajos de mantenimiento en la máquina.

7-1 GENERAL CLEANING

Cleaning the laminator daily or weekly will help prevent dirt or adhesive build-up on the rubber rollers and heat shoes and will improve the performance of the unit.

7-2 CLEANING THE HEAT SHOES

During normal use, excess adhesive from the film will often cling to the heat shoes, especially near the edges. Film coating powders can also build up on the shoes, and will increase friction between the film and the shoes. *This type of build-up may not be visible*, and it may adversely affect lamination in a number of ways. Film squealing loudly as it passes over the shoe can sometimes be a symptom of this problem.

TURN OFF AND UNPLUG THE MACHINE. Using a clean, soft, dry cloth, gently rub the adhesive or other contaminants off the shoes. Never use any abrasive material or rub too hard on the shoes because you may remove the Teflon coating.

You may dampen your cleaning cloth with soapy water or a mild water-based cleaning solution, but make sure you carefully insulate your hands from possible steam burns if you do this. The steam formed when water hits the hot surface can penetrate both the cleaning cloth and your gloves.

7-3 CLEANING THE RUBBER ROLLERS

Both the laminating rollers and the pull rollers need regular cleaning. Collectively, these are referred to as the rubber rollers. The upper heat shoe on the laminator swings away in seconds, making it far easier to clean the laminating rollers.

To clean the laminating rollers:

1. **Turn off and unplug the machine.**
2. Loosen the two thumbscrews located on the heat shoe brackets.
3. Lift the top heat shoe and secure it in the raised position by tightening both thumbscrews in the upper set of holes in the side panels. This will expose the rollers so that you can clean them more easily.
4. Use the REVERSE switch to slightly reposition the laminating rollers so that you can clean the entire surface on each roller in sections. The REVERSE switch is a momentary switch: the rollers will stop as soon as you take your finger off the button. Don't try to clean the rollers while they are turning. Never operate the rollers with your hands near the nip.

WARNING: NEVER CLEAN THE ROLLERS WHILE THEY ARE TURNING. The rollers may catch your fingers and cause injury, or they may catch your cleaning materials and damage the laminator. **UNPLUG THE POWER CORD WHILE CLEANING THE ROLLERS OR PERFORMING OTHER MAINTENANCE ON THE MACHINE. TURN THE ROLLERS BY HAND.**

MISE EN GARGE: Ne jamais nettoyer les rouleaux pendant qu'ils tournent afin d'éviter de se blesser et d'empêcher que le produit de nettoyage n'endommage l'intérieur de la machine. Débrancher le cordon d'alimentation avant le nettoyage ou tout autre travail d'entretien. Nettoyer d'abord la partie apparente des rouleaux, puis, à l'aide de la commande de marche arrière, les faire tourner de façon à pouvoir en nettoyer toute la surface. Faire tourner les rouleaux le plus lentement possible pour qu'il soit facile de les immobiliser à l'endroit voulu. Ne pas approcher les mains ou les vêtements des rouleaux en rotation. Débrancher à nouveau la machine avant de poursuivre le nettoyage.

AVERTENCIA: Nunca limpie los rodillos de goma mientras estén girando. Al estar girando, los rodillos pueden atrapar sus dedos y lastimarlos, o pueden atrapar sus artículos para limpieza y danar el plastificador. Desenchufe el cordón eléctrico mientras está limpiando los rodillos, o realizando otras tareas de mantenimiento en la máquina. Gire los rodillos por mano. Limpie una sección de los rodillos, luego enchufe la máquina y use el botón de marcha atrás para girar los rodillos y limpiar la sección siguiente. Establezca una velocidad muy baja, para controlar la rotación más fácilmente. Mantenga las manos y la ropa alejadas de los rodillos mientras están girando. Desenchufe la máquina otra vez antes de continuar con la limpieza.

Clean the rubber rollers with a mildly abrasive cleaning pad such as a **white** Scotch Brite (Trademark of 3M) pad which may be purchased in the household section of your grocery store (***the green pads are too abrasive***). Use "COOL CLEAN" to clean the rollers (available through your LEDCO dealer). Rub firmly, but do not scrub the rollers vigorously as this might damage the surface. Do not use sharp metal objects or steel wool as these will also damage the rollers.

The pull rollers should also be cleaned in the same manner. **Turn off and unplug the machine**, and turn the rollers by hand. The pull rollers are easier to clean because they are more accessible and because they should not have any adhesive on them. Be sure to reposition and secure the upper heat shoe before beginning to laminate.

7-4 LUBRICATION

Drive Chain

The drive chain and sprockets on all models should receive a light coat of gear lube or heavy grease (preferably lithium grease) after each 1,000 hours of operation.

PARTS LIST

Item/Components

0285 015.4A
 0285 094.4LW
 0285 097.4L
 0285 097.4R
 0285 099.4
 0285 191.4
 LC25 002.5
 0500-040.4
 LC25 060.4
 3285 133.4
 3500 130.4
 4285 025.4
 4285 028.4
 4285 030.4
 4285 031.4
 4285 032.4
 4285 041.4
 4285 042.4
 4285 065.4L
 4285 065.4R
 4285 090.4L
 4285 090.4R
 4285 094.4R
 4285 140.4
 4285 142.4
 4285 145.4
 4285 190.4
 4285 200.4
 4500 051.4
 4500 052.4
 4500 057.4
 4500 060.4
 4500 074.4
 4500 092.4B
 4500 092.4BK
 4500 092.4T
 4500 095.4
 4500 096.4
 LC25 011.4
 LAB03
 LAB06
 LAB50
 LAB51
 LAB77
 PRB043
 PRB048
 PRB058
 PRB064
 PRC084
 PRC096
 PRC117
 PRC118
 PRH130
 PRF117
 PRG131
 PRH147
 PRK175
 PRK177
 PRM220
 PRM218A
 PRS249
 PRS251
 PRS252A
 XS08
 XS33
 XS60

Description

Supply Roll Dog C
 Off-White Housing
 Feed Table Guide Left C
 Feed Table Guide Right C
 Feed Table Knob Nut C
 Retaining Ring
 Supply Roll Assembly Complete
 LD 25" Rubber Roll C
 Heat Shoe
 Cam
 Cam Shaft C
 Premier 4 Label
 Bottom Bearing Support
 Top Bearing Support
 Fan Shroud Standoffs
 Fan Guard Standoffs
 Slitter Knife Holder
 Slitter Handle
 Left Heat Shoe Bracket
 Right Heat Shoe Bracket
 Left Side Panel
 Right Side Panel
 Right Housing
 Roller Bearing
 Phenolic Spacer
 Blades for Slitter
 Safety Shield Bracket
 Nylon Mach Screw
 25" Idler Tube Shaft
 25" Idler Tube
 25" Fan Motor Bracket
 Top & Bottom Heat Shoe
 25" Safety Shield
 25" Bottom Motor Cover
 Back Motor Cover
 25" Top Motor Cover
 25" Threading Guide
 25" Feed Table
 Stabilizer
 International Symbol for Hot Label
 International Ground Symbol Label
 Danger Electrical Hazard Label
 Arm Entanglement Label
 Premier 4 Serial Label
 Bearing 1/2 5/8 1/2 B8104
 Bearing Oilite 1/2 5/8 1/2 FB8104
 Nyliner
 Snap Bushing
 #25 Chain Conn Link
 1/2 Shaft Collar
 Cord Receptacle
 Removable Cord #504
 Paktronics Heat Control
 Fan Motor
 12 Tooth Gear
 25" Heater
 Cam Shaft Knob
 SPI W 1/2' Screw
 Motor
 Minarik Speed Control
 25B18 Sprocket 1/2 Bore W SS
 25B19 Sprocket 1/2 Bore W SS
 25B20 Sprocket 1/2 Bore
 25" Carton
 Made in America Label
 Warranty Card