



# CASE STUDY

## Surfaceskins

When Leeds-based Surfaceskins Ltd needed a solution to replace existing fixing methods used in their manufacturing processes, the tesa team were called in for advice.

Surfaceskins design self-disinfecting door pads and handles to eliminate the risks of cross contamination, reducing the spread and transmission of germs in medical environments, public restaurants and toilets, schools and other public areas.

### tesa people

An initial assessment was carried out by Nigel Jarram, tesa Sales Area Manager and Mark Hill, BDK Sales Manager, who tesa involved in the process for die cutting suggestions and healthcare expertise.

The tesa team investigated the current processes involved in fixing the pushpads and pull handles to the doors and found that were not effective in providing the high standard of hygiene required. In addition, Surfaceskins had previously been securing the cassettes to the door with a combination of double-sided tape and mechanical fixings, which took longer to install than simply using a suitable tape.

The current use of mechanical fixings was leaving holes in the doors and causing damage when removed. The solution therefore needed to be an adhesive tape that would cause no damage, with the adhesive being removed using a suitable cleaner.

### tesa products

tesa® 4965 was identified as a solution for daily use. The transparent double-sided self-adhesive tape consists of a PET backing and a modified acrylic adhesive and is suitable for most demanding applications such as heavy stress, high temperatures or critical substrates. tesa® 4965 offered the high bond strength required and the correct thickness to ensure the cassette sat flush with the door.



## tesa processes

Following tesa's assessment, it was found that due to the strength of **tesa® 4965**, the whole area of the cassette did not require tape, only tape to cover the surface area was needed. **tesa® 4965** was produced in die cut form to tailor to the required size for each cassette, ensuring that Surfaceskins could apply the tape quickly and effectively, speeding up the manufacturing process.

## tesa performance

Nigel Jarram led the tesa team throughout the process and summarised "With die cuts provided by BDK, Surfaceskins can easily apply the tape to the rear of the cassette, reducing installation time and ensuring a clean process. The bonding strength of **tesa® 4965** is essential as the daily removal and installation of a new gel pad would be problematic. It also has to be reasonably tamper-proof as the units will be installed in public places, like schools."

Brian Waligora, CEO of Surfaceskins, is delighted with the results, saying "We required a product that would be durable and effective for long periods of time, whilst withstanding regular wear and tear – **tesa® 4965** provided just that. Using **tesa® 4965** die cut strips reducing the application time in half and provides the high strength bonding that we require at a reduced cost. Our customers can be reassured that the cassettes will remain in place for a long period of time and will not need renewing at shorter intervals."



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