



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

SHELF LIFE

The Shelf Life of cured rubber compounds is dependent on the polymer type and storage conditions. In general, it is best to store rubber products shielded from light, ozone and humidity at a temperature lower than 90°F. The Society of Aerospace Engineers has issued Aerospace Recommended Practice (ARP) 5316 as their industry standard for establishing polymer shelf lives. Precision Associates has adopted this standard for our use. The Shelf Life details are listed below:

ASTM Designation	Chemical Name	Common or Trade Names	Recommended Shelf Life
AU	Polyester Urethane	Urethane	5 Years
CR	Chloroprene	Neoprene®	15 Years
CSM	Chlorosulfonated Polyethylene	Hypalon®	Unlimited
EPDM	Ethylene Propylene	EPDM	Unlimited
EU	Polyether Urethane	Urethane	5 Years
FEPM	Tetrafluoroethylene Propylene	Aflas®	Unlimited
FFKM	Perfluorocarbon	Kalrez®	Unlimited
FKM	Fluorocarbon	Viton®, Fluorel®	Unlimited
FVMQ	Fluoro Methyl Vinyl Silicone	Fluorosilicone	Unlimited
IIR	Isobutylene Isoprene	Butyl	15 Years
NBR	Butadiene Acrylonitrile	Buna N, Nitrile	15 Years
PVMQ	Phenyl Methyl Vinyl Silicone	Silicone	Unlimited
VMQ	Methyl Vinyl Silicone	Silicone	Unlimited

For items not included in ARP 5316, we use the previously established MIL-HDBK-695

ACM	Polyacrylate	Acrylic	20 Years
AEM	Ethylene Acrylate	Vamac®	10 Years
CIIR	Chlorobutyl	Butyl	10 Years
CM	Chlorinated Polyethylene	Tyrin®	10 Years
ECO	Epichlorohydrin	Hydrin®	10 Years
EOT	Polysulfide	Thiokol®	20 Years
HNBR	Hydrogenated Nitrile	Highly Saturated Nitrile	15 Years
IIR	Isoprene	Synthetic Natural	5 Years
NR	Isoprene	Natural	5 Years
SBR	Styrene Butadiene	Buna S	5 Years

Neither specification establishes limitations for storage in assembled components, nor do they provide any guide to the operating life span of any polymers.



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