

Appendix I CERAMIC BATH GENERAL PACKAGING SPECIFICATION

Scope: To develop minimum packaging requirements for ceramic bath items (i.e. toilet tanks, bowls, pedestal lavatories, etc.) shipped to Lowe's Companies, Inc.

Objective: To ensure minimum packaging elements have been implemented by Lowe's Ceramic Bath suppliers, in the effort to minimize product damages associated with distribution throughout the RDC and Store environments.

Material Requirements: Individual master cartons for ceramic bath products must consist of the following packaging components:

Note: Cartons must be constructed of long-fiber corrugated material.

I. COMMON PACKAGING COMPONENTS

A. Corrugated Outer Carton (see FIGURE A – CORRUGATED SPECIFICATION)

- ◆ Double-Wall A/B Flute with **Full Overlap Top and Bottom**
- ◆ Burst Strength = 200# (lbs. per square inch)
- ◆ Edge Crush = 42# (lbs. per inch width)
- ◆ Weight of Outer Liner = 30# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- ◆ Weight of Middle Liner = 30# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)
- ◆ Weight of Inner Liner = 30# (lbs. per 1000 square feet)

B. Interior Padding:

- ◆ Molded polystyrene padding is preferred. However, corrugated pads are acceptable with their design focused on minimizing pressure points and dispersing the energy of impacts over a larger surface area.
- ◆ All components must be adequately secured and protected to prevent movement of product inside master carton.

C. Access Holes (see FIGURE B – ACCESS HOLE SPECIFICATION)

- ◆ Access holes must comply with the Lowe's Access Hole Specification.

II. CARTON SEALING ALTERNATIVES

A. Sealing Tape:

- ◆ Minimum of 2-1/2" wide with biaxially oriented polypropylene backing and pressure sensitive hot melt rubber resin adhesive.
- ◆ The tape must be resistant to aging and tolerate wide climate variations. Smooth and wrinkle-free application is required and the tape must extend at least 3" on the side panels of both the carton top and bottom.

B. Staples:

- ◆ Staples should be evenly spaced and properly inserted to remain secure during transit. Locator marks printed on the carton are recommended to ensure consistent staple location and placement.

C. Plastic Strapping:

- ◆ Minimum width = 1/2"
- ◆ If metal clips are utilized to secure the strapping, they must be free of sharp points or edges.
- ◆ Padding must be inserted between the strapping and corrugated carton to maintain carton integrity.

III. TRANSPORTATION TEST METHOD

A. Vibration Test:

- ◆ ISTA 1A vibration test method without modifications.

B. Drop Test:

- ◆ To simulate the Lowe's handling environment; a modified ISTA 1A drop tests consisting of 1 drop from 18" on each flat surface is recommended.

FIGURE A / CORRUGATED SPECIFICATION

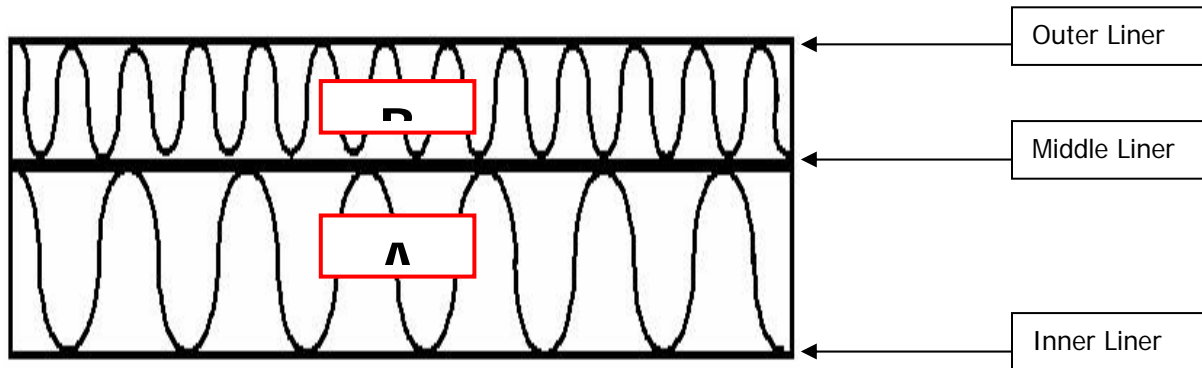


FIGURE B / ACCESS HOLE SPECIFICATION

— Scoreline Do Not Cut
- - - Cut Line

