

# Chemical Resistance Information For Use With GE Construction Sealants

In answer to questions regarding the effects of solvents and industrial chemicals on cured silicone rubber, the following information has been compiled.

Silicones are, in general, chemically inert and are attacked by only a very few common materials; among them are concentrated sulfuric acid, hydrofluoric acid and under long-term exposure, high pressure steam.

Like any elastomer, cured silicone resin has a tendency to physically absorb those materials and, this absorption may cause the rubber to swell and soften slightly. In a few applications, this volume increase is advantageous. For example, a silicone rubber gasket exposed to certain solvents will swell to form a tighter seal.

The change undergone by silicone rubber in contact with an absorbed solvent is primarily physical. After the solvent has completely evaporated, the cured silicone resin will return to its original physical and mechanical properties. To assure complete evaporation a bake-out at elevated temperature may be necessary.

The following table shows RTV's resistance to various common materials. It indicates the volume change, which may be expected from RTV submerged in a chemical or solvent for one week at room temperature. The following definitions for resistance were arbitrarily assigned.

Less than 10% volume change
10-25% volume change
25-75% volume change
Greater than 75% volume change

Excellent Good Fair Poor

Materials	Resistance	
ACIDS		
Citric	Excellent	
Hydrochloric, 3%	Fair	
Hydrochloric, Conc	Disintegrates	
Hydrofluoric	Disintegrates	
Phosphoric, dilute	Poor	
Sulfuric, 10%	Poor	
Sulfuric, Conc	Disintegrates	
Tannic	Excellent	
Nitric, Conc	Disintegrates	
Nitric, 7%	Poor	
Acetic, Conc	Good	
Acetic, 5%	Excellent	
BASES		
Ammonium Hydroxide 10	Poor	
Ammonium Hydroxide Conc	Disintegrates	
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Ammonium Hydroxide Conc	Disintegrates
Potassium Hydroxide	Disintegrates
Sodium Hydroxide 1%	Excellent
Sodium Hydroxide 20%	Fair
Sodium Hydroxide 50%	Poor

### **INORGANIC CHEMICALS**

Anhydrous Ammonia	Excellent
Sodium Chloride, 10%	Excellent
Hydrogen Peroxide, 3%	Excellent
Sodium Carbonate, 2%	Excellent
Sodium Carbonate, 20%	Excellent
Water	Excellent
Water (70 Hrs. @212°F)	Excellent

## **ORGANIC CHEMICALS**

Detergents	Excellent
Freon 12	Good
Freon 114	Fair
Methyl Chloride	Fair
Tricresyl Phosphate	Excellent



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#### Materials

#### Resistance

# HYDRAULIC FLUIDS

Hollingshead, H-2	Excellent
Hollingshead, H-2 (70 Hrs @212°F)	Good
MIL-L-7808 (Diester Fluid) 70Hrs @ 212°F	Fair - Good
Skydrol 500	Fair
Skydrol 8000	Excellent
Skydrol8000 (70Hrs. @ 212°F)	Excellent
Silicate Base	Fair

OILS

OTES .	
ASTM #10.1 (Aliphatic), 70Hrs. @ 300°F	Excellent
ASTM #30.1 (Aromatic), 70 Hrs @ 300°F	Fair
Castor 0.1	Excellent
Pyranol 1476	Excellent
Pyranol 1476 (70 Hrs @ 350°F)	Good
Diester Oils	Good
Diester Oils (70 Hrs. @ 350°F)	Fair
Linseed Oil	Excellent
Mineral Oil	Excellent
Silicone, SF96 (100)	Excellent
Silicone, SF96 (100) 70 Hrs @ 300°F	Fair
Viscasil 60000CSTKS 10,000-1,000,000	Good - Excellent
Viscasil 60000 CSTKS (70 Hrs @ 300°F)	Good
ASTM #10.1 (Aliphatic), 70Hrs. @ 300°F	Excellent
ASTM #30.1 (Aromatic), 70 Hrs @ 300°F	Fair
Castor 0.1	Excellent
Pyranol 1476	Excellent
Pyranol 1476 (70 Hrs @ 350°F)	Good
Diester Oils	Good
Diester Oils (70 Hrs. @ 350°F)	Fair
Linseed Oil	Excellent
Mineral Oil	Excellent

### **SOLVENTS**

Acetone	Fair
Butyl Alcohol	Good
Carbon Tetrachloride	Poor
Diacetone Alcohol	Excellent
Ethyl Alcohol	Excellent
Gasoline	Poor
Jet Fuel, JP4	Fair
Mineral Spirits	Poor
Toluene	Poor



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