

Saflex® DG Structural Interlayer – Exposed Edge Stability

Edge stability is a performance property that indicates Saflex® interlayer's resistance to delamination when subjected to a hot and humid environment with exposed edges. Eastman selected a commercially operated site near Miami, Florida (USA) for outdoor edge stability testing. Edge stability, as defined here, is a long term event with the samples exposed to the natural outside environment. The edges are unprotected and consequently are wet in the early morning (dew) and during episodes of fog or rain.

The Edge Stability Number (ESN) is a weighted sum of "percent defect lengths" where the weight increases as the square of the depth (expressed in sixteenths of an inch). The maximum ESN number is 2500 with a minimum number being zero, therefore the smaller the number the better the edge stability in this environment. Any product exhibiting an ESN of less than 500 is considered exceptional.

Figure 1 shows the difference between the conventional Saflex R series PVB and Saflex DG structural interlayers, both exposed at the above-mentioned site for the corresponding duration. With the understanding that an ESN of 500 is considered exceptional Saflex DG41 performance at 58 months is outstanding. Saflex R series formulation exposure was complete at 46 months; however, Saflex DG is being exposed for a longer duration.

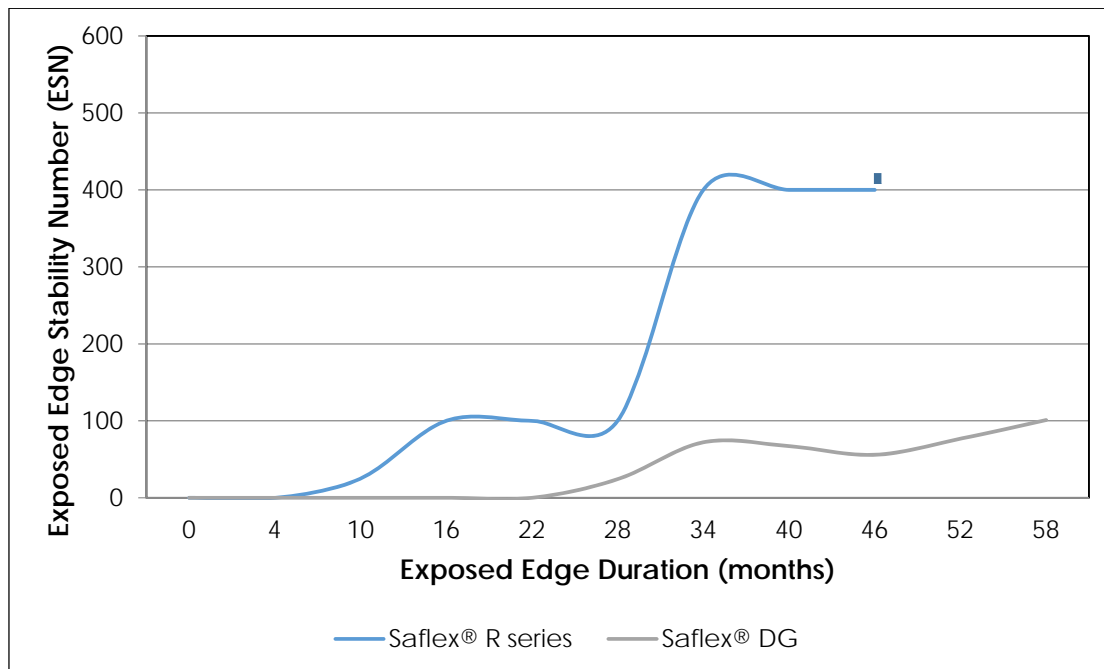


Figure 1: Edge Stability Numbers Saflex R series and Saflex DG interlayers

Data in various exposure programs continues to be gathered for Saflex DG structural interlayer. The continuation of outstanding stability and durability performance for properly laminated glass with Saflex DG is expected.

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