

General information

The heat-shrink materials are obtained by cross-linking of polyethylene with chemical or radiation method. The shape of a product is formed at high temperatures and then solidified by cooling it to a room temperature. The product highly increases its cross dimensions during this process. By heating the product to temperature $120\div 200$ °C during assembling we cause its form to be melted and, owing its "shape memory", it will attempt to return to its original shape, thus significantly decreasing its cross dimensions and tightly closing the object placed previously into it. This ensures electrical insulation, anticorrosion protection, improves aesthetics. The

cross-linked polyethylene is highly resistant to stress corrosion, solvents, acid and base solutions, salts, petrol and oils. Certain products are covered inside with a glue that additionally increases their tightness and pressure resistance. They are used for insulating of terminals, joints, clamps, holders, bus-bars, wire bundle connecting and protection of various elements in electrical and electronic engineering as well as machinery. The longitudinal dimensions of the heat-shrink products increase (e.g. joints) or decrease (e.g. sleeves), which has been defined in the description of the individual groups of the products.

Shrinking directions

Shrinking should be carried out using an electric or gas heater (preferably with temperature control) or, taking precautions, by means of a burner with yellow flame so that the heating temperature is $120\div 200$ °C. The object to be shrunk must be previously cleaned with abrasive paper, degreased

and then heated-up to approx. 60 °C. After slipping over the shrinkable element must be heated up beginning from the half of length, evenly and around, gradually moving the heater to the element ends and avoiding local overheating. Correct shrinkage has no folds, bulges, burns.

