

Anti-counterfeiting and anti-piracy technology guide

<http://euipo.europa.eu/anti-counterfeiting-and-anti-piracy-technology-guide>

Ultra-Destructible Labels

Ultra-destructible labels are made from very fragile materials (often paper or PVC) and applied with extremely strong glue. This combination ensures that any attempt to remove the label is destined to fail; if anyone tries, the label will break into small pieces that cannot be fully removed. This makes them a particularly effective anti-tampering technique.

Used for

✓ Anti-tampering / Anti-alteration

Suitable for

- ✓ Very small products
- ✓ Small products
- ✓ Medium-sized products
- ✓ Large products

Goes on

- ✓ Product
- ✓ Packaging

Can be used for

✓ Physical products

Visibility

✓ Visible

Reading device needed

✓ No

Connection to server

✓ No

Description

Ultra-destructible labels come in a wide range of sizes and can be applied to various different types of supports. They can also be customised and given unique numbering. The more fragile an ultra-destructible label is, the greater its effectiveness. However, the more fragile it is, the greater the difficulty of handling and applying it also.

Uses

This type of label is particularly suited to products covered by warranty, such as electronic equipment, and is used equally in assistance and repair centres and in shops. These labels are also well suited to the food sector, where they are used as guarantees of freshness on jars and similar.

Implementation

Implementing this technology will require changes to be made to the stage in the production process at which labels are attached to the product or packaging. As with other types of labels, partly or fully automated solutions are available for those ultra-destructible labels that do not need to be applied manually, depending on the quantity to be applied.

Cost

The costs associated with ultra-destructible labels are fairly low, but will vary according to the material used.

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