

PPG TESLIN® substrate makes the grade for durable and secure diplomas and certificates



“All our customers are extremely happy with *Teslin* substrate and have started moving their other security printing jobs to the material.”

M. Veerappan
Managing Director, Image Security Printers



Challenge

India’s education system has seen explosive expansion and according government reports, the number of universities has grown almost four times in less than three decades. Graduates are earning prized diplomas and certificates, which are being printed in increasing record numbers across the country.

Image Security Printers (ISP), located in Chennai in the State of Tamil Nadu, is a leading mid-sized security printing company that annually prints upwards of one million education documents, including mark sheets, transcripts, certificates and diplomas.

Parchment paper had been the default material for these critical documents due to its low cost, ability to laminate, and compatibility with various printing processes. Parchment paper diplomas however, were prone to sticking to protective plastic folders, to tearing upon manual handling and to smudging when exposed to moisture or dirt.

Given these challenges, customers began asking for alternative substrates. Institutions wanted more durable and attractive certificates. They also wanted their documents to be easier to authenticate, and resistant to tampering and counterfeiting through the incorporation of security features.

Summary

- Image Security Printers (ISP) began searching for a durable paper after customers expressed dissatisfaction with performance attributes of traditional parchment paper.
- ISP evaluated numerous synthetic papers that could accommodate multiple security features and deliver high customer value.
- As a result of shifting to PPG TESLIN® substrate, ISP has gained more than 85 universities and other institutions as customers and increased the company’s revenue by more than 200 percent.



Examples of the mark sheets, transcripts, certificates and diplomas ISP produces for its customers.



Solution

In its search to replace parchment paper for a state university in southern India, ISP initially explored using a basic plastic substrate. The substrate, however, failed when the university attempted to personalize its diplomas using an office laser printer.

ISP then evaluated various brands of polypropylene and polyethylene but none provided a comprehensive solution. ISP eventually selected PPG TESLIN® substrate because it delivered a comprehensive, cost-competitive range of benefits for high-value security documents.

Teslin substrate offers the look and feel of premium paper, yet it is resistant to moisture, abrasion, and tearing without needing lamination or overcoat treatment. The material dissipates static, which minimizes document sticking when placed in protective folders. ISP also found that it resists degradation by termites.

It is easy to print, offers exceptional print quality, allows ink and toner to set quickly and yields brilliant color graphics and text. It is compatible with a wide range of security inks and toners, printing techniques and equipment. Customers can easily add variable data such as high-resolution photos, 2D barcodes and QR (quick response) codes using standard in-house laser printers. Recipients can also manually sign with a pen and use rubber stamping.

Teslin substrate supports multiple conventional printed and non-printed security features to help prevent counterfeiting. Additionally, the material's microporosity locks in inks and toners to protect against data alteration.

Teslin substrate can easily be incorporated with technologies such as QR codes, RFID (radio-frequency identification), and NFC (near field communication) to help make documents more difficult to replicate and easy to authenticate.



Results

By shifting to *Teslin* substrate for diplomas and certificates, ISP has added more than 85 customers and increased revenues by more than 200 percent.

At the same time, ISP has successfully helped their customers overcome the common problems they faced with other substrates, such as paper jams and high rejection rates. According to ISP, *Teslin* substrate is enabling customers to create high quality, attractive and secure diplomas and certificates that reflect the significance of the information they contain.

ISP reports that it has successfully converted most of its educational document print projects to *Teslin* substrate as document issuing authorities recognize the many advantages the material brings over parchment and other synthetic papers. In fact, many satisfied customers have not only converted their certificates, diplomas and mark sheets but have also migrated their provisional, migration and rank forms to *Teslin* substrate.

Visit [teslin.com](https://www.teslin.com) to put PPG Teslin substrate to work for your educational or government document needs.



Durable PPG TESLIN® substrate outperforms parchment paper for secure diplomas and certificates.

PPG TESLIN® Substrate

Institutions and governments around the world trust these unique, high-performing properties of *Teslin* substrate for their important secure documents:

- Microporous structure absorbs and locks in inks and toners to make printed text and graphics virtually indestructible
- Premium texture and soft paper feel that reflect the prestige of documents and issuing institutions
- Paper-like printability with high-resolution black and white and color print quality
- Compatibility with most digital printers for in-house variable data printing
- Inherent tamper-evident security and acceptance of an array of printed and non-printed security features
- Exceptional durability under many harsh conditions (resists water, abrasion and tearing)
- Good compatibility with most pens and stamping techniques

