

Your Guide to Strapping

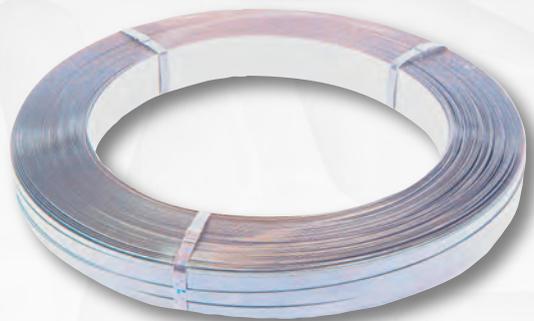
There are many types of plastic and steel strapping, which can be confusing if you're not sure which one is best for your application.

This brief guide helps explain the differences and benefits of each type.



Steel Strapping

Steel strapping is supplied with a zinc coating or painted and waxed. Zinc increases corrosion resistance and waxing reduces strap friction to apply tension more evenly along its length. Steel is most commonly used for heavier materials such as brick and concrete products as it has high tensile strength and minimal elongation under tension.



Steel strapping may be sealed with compressible metal seals or a crimping sealer, and requires heavy duty cutters.

Stainless steel strapping provides ultimate corrosion resistance but is more commonly used in process installation than for packaging.



Composite Polyester

Constructed from filaments embedded in polyester, composite strap has good abrasion resistance and strength. It is increasingly used in place of steel as it is lighter in weight, corrosion-proof and safer to use. Its excellent memory also enables it to securely hold flexing products such as timber without loss of tension or damage to the strapped product.

Composite polyester is joined with a steel buckle and only requires a hand operated tensioning tool and light cutters, so is faster and more convenient than steel.



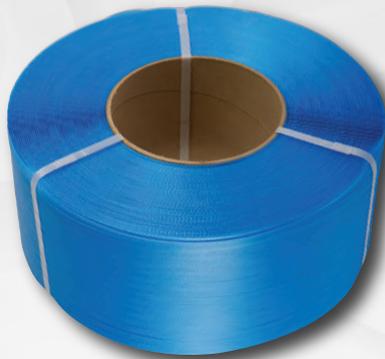
Hotmelt polyester

Parallel strands of hotmelt adhesive-bonded polyester yarn make this a popular and economical choice for manual strapping and bale pressing of non-abrasive products such as paper and card. Softness and flexibility reduce the risk of damage to products and cartons.



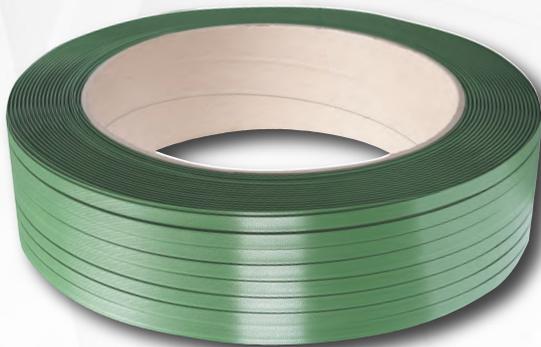
Woven polyester

Crosswoven strands of polyester yarn are coated with cold glue to improve this strap's rigidity and system strength. Woven offers higher resistance to chafing and shearing – where a small cut at the edge of the strap spreads across its width under tension – so are suited to use with rough-edged consignments.



Polypropylene

Oriented or tensilised polypropylene is the most versatile and widely used strapping, as it is compatible with manual and automatic systems. Compressible metal seals are used for manual strapping, but friction weld sealing is used for portable tensioner sealers and automatic systems as it is faster and cheaper.



Polyester tensilised

Similar in construction and use to polypropylene, polyester tensilised offers greater retained tension and recovery properties. This characteristic makes it a preferred choice for maintaining a secure hold where greater strain on the strapping is anticipated.

Polyester tensilised strapping is suitable for manual application and some friction weld systems.

Safeguard® is a leading brand of strapping, tools and accessories suited to every strapping application. Safeguard strapping is also compatible with the Optimax® range of friction weld tools and strapping systems.

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