

## BOSS<sup>®</sup> 388 RTV 100% Universal Silicone Sealant

### TYPICAL PROPERTIES

#### Uncured

Colors .....clear, white , black, aluminum,  
trans white and almond

Slump .....NIL

Tack-Free Time @77°F (25°C) and 50% RH ..... 10-20 min.

Extrusion Rate ..... 385 gr/min.

#### Cured – Physical

*7 days at 77°F (25°C) and 50% RH (1/8" thickness)*

Elongation .....480%

Durometer, Shore A ..... 28

Tensile strength .....360 psi

Movement Capacity .....±25%

Service Temperature.....-40°F to 400°F

Application Temperature .....-35°F to 140°F

\*Information on this data sheet is subject to change without notice  
and should not be used for writing specifications.  
For additional information on specific applications, contact Soudal Accumetric



### DESCRIPTION

**BOSS<sup>®</sup> 388** RTV 100% Universal Silicone Sealant is a paste-like, one component material which cures to a tough, rubbery solid when exposed to moisture in the air. Since it will not flow of its own weight, this sealant can be applied overhead or on sidewall joints and surfaces without sagging, slumping or running off. It will adhere to clean metal, glass, most types of wood, silicone resins, vulcanized silicone rubber, ceramic, natural and synthetic fiber, as well as painted and many plastic surfaces.

**BOSS<sup>®</sup> 388** has good resistance to weathering, vibration, moisture, ozone and extreme temperatures. It may be applied in sub-zero weather without loss of extrusion or physical property characteristics. Fully cured **BOSS<sup>®</sup> 388** can be used for extended periods at temperatures up to 400°F (204°C).

### USES

- Sealing windows in oven doors and flues on gas appliances, flanged pipe joints and access doors
- Adhering auto and appliance trim, including metal, fabric and fabric backed plastics
- Sealing trailers, truck cabs
- Filleting and caulking joints in sheet metal stacks, ductwork, and equipment housings
- Bonding gaskets in heating and refrigeration units
- Sealing of marine cabins and windows
- Anti-abrasion coating
- Bonding signs and sign letters
- Attaching screwless brackets or nameplates and tacking plastic materials to metal
- Formed-in-place gasket for gear boxes, compressors, pumps

## HOW TO USE

### Applying the Material: Tack-Free Time

**BOSS® 388** is supplied ready-to-use. Under pressure it flows readily from its container. The paste-like consistency makes it easy to work; a spatula or wooden paddle can be used for tooling the surface. The cure progresses inward from the surface. At conditions of at least 75°F (24°C) and 50% relative humidity, the sealant forms a tack-free skin within 20 minutes. Tooling is not practical after this skin begins forming and should be completed within 5 to 10 minutes of application, even though this may require alternate periods of applying and tooling. Likewise, if masking tape has been used to mark off the area, it should be removed before the tack-free skin forms.

### Cure Time

Cure time is affected by relative humidity, degree of confinement and cross-sectional thickness of the sealant. Sections up to 1/8" thick become rubbery solids in about 24 hours at room temperature and 20 percent relative humidity. Less moisture content reduces it slightly. In 24 hours, sections up to 1/8" thick cure to a rubber with a Shore A durometer hardness rating of about 25 points. After 3 days at room temperature, this durometer hardness levels off to about 30 points.

In applications where **BOSS® 388** may be partly or totally confined during cure, the time required for proper cure is generally lengthened by the degree of confinement. It is possible, with absolute confinement, that cure will not be completed. The result is the softening of the sealant at elevated temperatures. Metal-to-metal bonds should not overlap more than one inch. Every application involving confinement during cure should be thoroughly tested before commercialization.

Curing time increases with the thickness of the sealant. A 1/2" cross-section, for example, may require 3 or 4 days for complete solidification. However, the cure will have penetrated the outer 1/8" in about 24 hours. **BOSS® 388** has a typical peel strength of 20 pounds per inch. After 72 hours at room temperature, sealant adheres to glass, metal and most woods. The odor given off during cure is due to the liberation of acetic acid. This odor disappears as the cure progresses, and is not detectable after the cure is complete.

### Bonding

1. Thoroughly clean and degrease metal and plastic surfaces, then rinse all surfaces, except plastic, with acetone. Rubber surfaces should be roughened with sandpaper, then wiped with acetone. Follow the precautions given on solvent container label.
2. For stronger, more uniform bonds, apply a thin film of A-120 prime coat to all surfaces except rubber and silicone rubber. Allow to air-dry for 30 to 45 minutes at room temperature. (Full

instructions are provided with the prime coat.) **CAUTION:** A-120 prime coat is flammable and has no FDA status. Keep away from heat and open flames. Use only with adequate ventilation.

3. Apply **BOSS® 388** to the prepared surface in a uniform thickness. Best adhesion is obtained with a 15 to 30 mil glue line. In those cases where the adhesive is used between surfaces, put the second surface in place, using enough pressure to displace the air but not the adhesive.
4. Let the unit stand undisturbed at room temperature to cure.

### Sealing

Using **BOSS® 388** in sealing applications follows approximately the same step-by-step procedures as outlined for bonding applications. After preparing the surface and priming where required, the sealant is applied by forcing it into the joint or seam to obtain full contact between sealant and surfaces.

## SPECIFICATIONS

**BOSS® 388** meets the following specifications:

- NSF Standard 51
- FDA/USDA requirements for use in establishments operating under Federal Meat and Poultry Inspection Program. When cured and washed, ingredients remaining or which could migrate to food are listed on FDA Regulation No. 21 CFR 177.2600
- TT-S-001543A (silicone building sealant)
- TT-S-00230C (one component building sealant)
- ASTM C-920-86

## CAUTION

**DIRECT CONTACT OF UNCURED SEALANT IRRITATES EYES AND MAY IRRITATE SKIN. OVEREXPOSURE TO VAPOR MAY IRRITATE EYES, NOSE, AND THROAT.** Avoid eye and skin contact. Use with adequate ventilation. Do not handle contact lenses with sealant on hands. **IN CASE OF EYE CONTACT,** flush eyes with water for 15 minutes. Obtain medical attention. **IN CASE OF SKIN CONTACT,** remove from skin and flush with water. Sealant releases acetic acid (vinegar-like odor) during cure. **KEEP OUT OF THE REACH OF CHILDREN.** For safe handling information on this product, consult the Safety Data Sheet (SDS).

## PACKAGING

**BOSS® 388** is available in standard caulking cartridges. Other sizes available upon request.

## SHIPPING LIMITATIONS

None.  
Reactive VOC 29 g/l (<3% wt)

## STORAGE AND SHELF LIFE

When stored in the original unopened containers at or below 90°F (32°C), **BOSS® 388** has a shelf life of 12 months from date of shipment. In Countries where high heat and humidity are a factor, special precautions must be taken. Store product in a covered, well-ventilated warehouse and avoid excessive heat conditions. Storage in high heat, high humidity conditions may reduce shelf life by up to 30%. Rotation of stock is an absolute necessity. Cartons should always be stacked upright with the nozzle tip pointed upwards. **DO NOT** stack cartons on their side. **NEVER** stack cartons more than 8 high. **DO NOT** store within 1 meter (4 feet) of roofline of the warehouse or storage building.

## USERS PLEASE READ

The information and data contained herein is believed to be accurate and reliable; however, it is the user's responsibility to determine suitability of use. Since the supplier cannot know all the uses, or the conditions of use to which these products may be exposed, no warranties concerning the fitness or suitability for a particular use or purpose are made.

It is the user's responsibility to thoroughly test any proposed use of our products and independently conclude satisfactory performance in the application.

Likewise, if the application, product specifications or manner in which our products are used requires government approval or clearance, it is the sole responsibility of the user to obtain sure authorization.

**Non-warranty:** Because the storage, handling and application of the material is beyond Soudal Accumetric's control, we can accept no liability for the results obtained. Soudal Accumetric's sole limited warranty is the product meets the manufacturing specifications in effect at time of shipment. There is no warranty of merchantability or fitness for use, nor any other express or implied warranty. Soudal Accumetric will not be liable for incidental or consequential damages of any kind. The exclusive remedy for breach of such limited warranty is a refund of purchase price or replacement of any product shown to be other than as warranted.

Suggestions of uses should not be taken as inducements to infringe any patents.

MADE IN U.S.A.

## BOSS® PRODUCTS

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