

# How to Buy Fluorosilicone Rubber

*By Scott Kearns, ElastaPro*

Fluorosilicone (FVMQ) rubber sheet and uncured compound resist oils, fuels, and harsh chemicals. It also withstands temperatures ranging from -85°F to +550°F (-65°C to 288°C). Fluorosilicone rubber is more expensive than many commodity elastomers, so gasket fabricators want to minimize waste and maximize yields. They also want to buy materials that reduce risk and increase profitability. Domestic sourcing, Certificates of Analysis (COA), full qualification, and lot-to-lot verification are all critical.

## Domestic Sourcing

Domestic sourcing reduces supply chain risk by shortening shipping distances, minimizing transportation touchpoints, and allowing for quicker responses to disruptions such as geopolitical disputes, natural disasters, and pandemics. Along with shorter lead times and greater visibility, the benefits include reduced exposure to international trade issues such as tariffs and shipping delays. It's also easier to coordinate and collaborate with a domestic fluorosilicone manufacturer.

## Certificates of Analysis (COAs)

A Certificate of Analysis (COA) provides the test results for a specific batch of material. By contrast, a Certificate of Conformance (COC) simply attests that a material meets requirements. In other words, a COC does not provide batch-level test data. That's a key distinction in industries like aerospace and defense, both of which use fluorosilicone rubber because of its wide temperature range, superior resistance to fuels and solvents, and ability to meet specs like AMSR25988.

## Full Qualification and Lot-to-Lot Verification

Material specifications are subject to change, and suppliers sometimes change the ingredients in their products. That's why ElastaPro performs a full qualification whenever there's a spec change or when we update a raw material. We also conduct full lot-to-lot verification in accordance with the spec, which typically contains a table for testing during lot-to-lot qualification work. In the AMSR25988 specification, for example, Table IV outlines material property requirements.

## Made in USA Fluorosilicone with Full Traceability

ElastaPro is North America's largest manufacturer of solid silicone sheeting, but we also make fluorosilicone rubber sheet and uncured compound in accordance with our ISO 9001:2015 and AS9100D certified quality management system (QMS). For traceability, we supply a full COA with each batch and perform a full qualification whenever there's a spec change or when we update a raw material. We also conduct full lot-to-lot verification in accordance with the spec.

To learn more about buying fluorosilicone rubber, we invite you to visit us at <https://elastapro.com/contact-us/>

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