Making a good roll of fabric on a nonwoven production line is not the end result of a customer’s order. The customer will not be satisfied until the roll arrives at their location in good condition. For that reason, nonwoven manufacturers often use some type of stretch wrap to protect their rolls. Many apply the stretch wrap with a machine called a roll wrapper. There are several types of machines from manual to fully automatic. Some are built at the end of production lines and others are off-line. The type and location depends on the length and diameter of the rolls.

Stretch wrap is a strong plastic film that can be stretched up to 500% in length before it breaks. Many wrapping machines prestretch the film from 100% to 300% before it is applied to the roll. This is done for economy, to get the most feet of wrap from a roll of stretch film. The plastic polymer used in stretch film also gets stronger up to a point when it is stretched. The stretch film is wound tightly on the roll of fabric and the surface of the film has an affinity for itself. In other words, the film tends to stick to itself. This helps to make a very neat, tight package. Stretch film is usually clear or black. The black film helps protect rolls that would be affected adversely by sunlight.

**Roll Wrapper**

“Do you want to know who you are? Don’t ask. Act! Action will delineate and define you.”

Thomas Jefferson