We Claim:

1. An article comprising:

an adhesive layer having two opposing surfaces, the adhesive layer comprising

(i) a functionalized ethylene-based polymer having a melt index from 0.1 g/10 min to 300 g/10 min; wherein the melt index (MI) (I_2) is measured according to ASTM D1238, condition 190°C/2.16 kilogram (kg) weight; wherein the functionalized ethylene-based polymer is a maleic anhydride grafted ethylene-based polymer;

(ii) from 0.01 wt% to 45 wt% of a functionalized hydrocarbon; wherein a functionalized hydrocarbon is a hydrocarbon polymer with an acid anhydride moiety bonded to the hydrocarbon polymer chain; wherein the functionalized hydrocarbon is a functionalized polybutadiene;

(iii) a tackifier; and

(iv) optionally a crosslinking agent.

2. The article of claim 1 further comprising a first layer in direct contact with a first surface of the adhesive layer, the first layer comprising a fabric.

3. The article of claim 2 wherein the adhesive layer is crosslinked to the first layer.

4. The article of claim 1 further comprising a second layer in direct contact with a second surface of the adhesive layer, the second layer comprising an ethylene-based polymer selected from the group consisting of an ethylene/α-olefin multi-block copolymer, an ethylene/propylene/diene terpolymer, and combinations thereof.

5. The article of claim 4 wherein the adhesive layer is crosslinked to the second layer.

6. The article of any of claims 1–5 comprising:

a first layer in direct contact with a first surface of the adhesive layer, the first layer comprising a fabric comprising fiber selected from the group consisting of polyester fiber, polyamide fiber, cellulose fiber, and combinations thereof; and

a second layer in direct contact with a second surface of the adhesive layer, the second layer comprising an ethylene-based polymer selected from the group consisting of an ethylene/α-olefin multi-block copolymer, an ethylene/propylene/diene terpolymer, and combinations thereof.

7. The article of claim 6, wherein the adhesive layer is crosslinked and the article has a peel strength after initial compression from 10 g/cm to 500 g/cm, as measured by the T-Peel Test.

8. The article of any of claims 1–7, wherein the functionalized hydrocarbon is a maleic anhydride grafted polybutadiene.

9. The article of any of claims 1–8, wherein the adhesive layer comprises:

(i) from 10 wt% to 75 wt% of the functionalized ethylene-based polymer;

(ii) from 0.01 wt% to 45 wt% of the functionalized hydrocarbon;

(iii) from 5 wt% to 55 wt% of the tackifier; and

(iv) from 0.1 wt% to 10 wt% of the crosslinking agent.

10. The article of any of claims 1–9, wherein the adhesive layer comprises:

(i) from 35 wt% to 70 wt% maleic anhydride grafted ethylene/1-octene copolymer;

(ii) from 0.5 wt% to 40 wt% maleic anhydride grafted polybutadiene;

(iii) from 10 wt% to 50 wt% of the tackifier; and

(iv) from 0.1 wt% to 2 wt% of the crosslinking agent.

11. An article as defined in claim 1, the article further comprising:

(A) a first layer in direct contact with a first surface of the adhesive layer, the first layer comprising a fabric comprising poly(ethylene terephthalate) fiber and cotton fiber;

(B) a second layer in direct contact with a second surface of the adhesive layer, the second layer comprising an ethylene-based polymer selected from the group consisting of an ethylene/α-olefin multi-block copolymer, an ethylene/propylene/diene terpolymer, combinations thereof;

wherein the adhesive layer is crosslinked to both the first layer and the second layer; and

the article has a peel strength after initial compression from 10 g/cm to 500 g/cm, as measured by the T-Peel Test.

12. The article of claim 11, wherein the article has a peel strength after final compression from 450 g/cm to 6000 g/cm, as measured by the T-Peel Test.

13. The article of claim 11 or 12, wherein the article is an automotive timing belt.