We claim:

1. An air filter, comprising:

an air filter pack comprising air filtration media folded along fold lines to define adjacent walls separated by connecting peaks at the fold lines;

a beam comprising a solid structure of cured adhesive defined on both sides of the air filtration media and extending transverse to the fold lines, wherein the beam comprises a solid beam that extends along an entire depth of the filter pack, from upstream oriented peaks to downstream oriented peaks, wherein the beam comprises beam segments positioned between adjacent walls and filling a space between the adjacent walls extending to adjacent peaks; and further comprising strands of cured adhesive extending along the peaks of the filter pack, wherein the strands of cured adhesive have a smaller bead thickness than the cured adhesive defining the beam.

2. The air filter of claim 1, wherein the beam is defined by beam sections arranged along a beam axis between adjacent walls of the air filter pack.

3. The air filter of claim 2, wherein the beam sections define an arched beam.

4. The air filter of claim 3, wherein the arched beam is convex facing toward an upstream side of the air filter.

5. The air filter of claim 1, wherein the strands of cured adhesive are positioned on either side of the beam.

6. The air filter of claim 1, wherein a plurality of beams are positioned extending transverse to peaks of the filter pack.

7. The air filter of claim 1, further comprising a filter frame having side walls, the filter pack being mounted in the filter frame.

8. The air filter of claim 7, wherein the filter frame comprises a flat, square or rectangular filter frame.

9. The air filter of claim 1, wherein the beam extends contiguously between each pair of adjacent walls of the filter pack, whereby the filter pack is reinforced against bending due to air flow.

10. The air filter of claim 1, wherein the cured adhesive of the beam comprises the same adhesive on both sides of the air filtration media.

11. A method for making an air filter, comprising:

applying lines of adhesive along a flat sheet of filter media, wherein a first plurality of the adhesive lines are relatively narrow adhesive lines and a second at least one of the adhesive lines is a relatively thicker adhesive line;

folding the flat sheet of filter media into a filter pack comprising a plurality of walls defined by adjacent folds along fold lines, the folds defining peaks, wherein the relatively narrow adhesive lines extend along at least the peaks on one side of the filter pack, and wherein the relatively thicker line defines a beam comprising adhesive material on both sides of the filter media and extending between adjacent walls; and

curing the adhesive to define the beam of cured adhesive, wherein a first relatively thicker adhesive line is applied on one side of the filter media, and a second relatively thicker adhesive line is applied on the other side of the filter media, whereby the folding step positions the relatively thicker lines along both sides of the filter media to define the beam.

12. The method of claim 11, further comprising positioning the filter pack in a frame.

13. The method of claim 11, wherein the relatively narrow adhesive lines are applied only along surfaces of the filter media that will define an outer surface of the peaks.

14. The method of claim 11, wherein the relatively thicker adhesive line is applied along an entire length of the filter media.

15. The method of claim 11, wherein the first relatively thicker adhesive line and the second relatively thicker adhesive line are applied along the same path on opposite sides of the filter media.

16. The method of claim 11, wherein the first relatively thicker adhesive line is applied in segments along the filter media such that the folding step defines beam sections arranged along a beam axis between adjacent walls of the air filter pack.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the beam sections define an arched beam.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the arched beam is convex facing an upstream side of the filter pack.