

Solvent Based Hydrochromic Inks

Technical Product Information

Metachromatic Function: Irreversible

Product Name: Solvent Based Hydrochromic Flexo

Last Revision: 22/01/2014

Description

A Hydrochromic Ink changing from colour to clear is available in a solvent based flexo ink formulation.

A general purpose ink for absorbent substrates such as paper and board. Various colours possible; the standard is blue or black

Supplied as a 1 part ink system ready formulated and easy to use, allowing flexibility in application and optimisation in appearance of printed article.

Application

Screen onto paper or card. The ink dries it giving opaque colour. It may be recoated to increase opacity. When wet the ink loses its colour and goes clear.

Decolouration of the ink on wetting may be affected to some extent by different substrates or if the water evaporates on the surface. The difference between a fresh print area and one that has been exposed to moisture will always be quite apparent. Users should evaluate the effectiveness of the ink on their own substrate. Prints on an absorbent substrate will show far less tendency to regain colour after they have dried out after being exposed to water. A print on a non-absorbent substrate where the moisture dries out still on top of the print may show colour reversion.

Product Properties

Adhesion

The adhesion of Solvent Based Hydrochromic Ink depends upon the surface properties of the selected substrate. Due to the wide variety of substrates it is recommended that this ink is evaluated fully prior to any commercial use.

Rub Resistance

The ink itself after baking exhibits good rub resistance properties on absorbent and non absorbent substrates. It will print on paper and print receptive plastics.

Technical Data Sheet

Additional Product Properties

Recommended Printing Parameters

The flexo graphic ink may benefit from a heavy coating anilox but the user should evaluate for themselves in conjunction with their own substrate.

Dried ink will have to be removed using solvents.

Drying

The ink will air dry or can be forced dried with IR lamps or hot air. It is recommended that the ink and substrate are fully tested in the printing procedure before a print run. Adequate ventilation and fume extraction should be provided. The safety data sheet should be read before use and appropriate control measures taken.

Cleaning recommendations

Use solvents – dried ink will dissolve even if fully dry.

Handling

Solvent based Hydrochromic inks are a one part ink system that will remain stable if kept in the supplied container and stored in the correct storage conditions.

Mixing Instructions

Contents may settle on transit. Ink should be thoroughly mixed using a mechanical stirrer prior to application. Do not mix with other ink systems.

Storage

Store away from frost and high temperature to gain optimum performance from the product. Product is flammable so an appropriate safety storage area is recommended.

Shelf Life 6 Months

Do not store in temperatures in Excess of 25°C / 77°F

Do not freeze

As the product is water based it is important to keep the containers tightly shut to avoid evaporation and skinning of the product.