

NARROW WEB

News for Narrow Web Printers | Canada & U.S. Edition



UV LED Flexographic Metallics

As printers begin to add LED presses to their printing operations, a certain level of complexity is introduced. Printers may have to carry additional ink series from the traditional UV systems in order to properly function in UV LED lighting. Carrying these additional ink series could come at a cost of added inventory and potential confusion when delivery the right inks to press.

SICURA FLEX LED METALLICS remove this complexity by offering an all-in-one solution for traditional UV presses, as well as, the new UV LED platforms (in the 380-400nm ranges). SICURA FLEX LED chemistry takes full advantage of the LED cure spectrum by offering enhanced loading levels (20% stronger loading) and strong through-cure to eliminate rub-off and/or poor cure traits seen in traditional metallic inks.

Furthermore, the new SICURA FLEX LED SILVER offering utilizes an enhanced 877 Silver. This silver has the capability to resist foaming and rheology build-up in the ink during a typical job. These issues, which are typical in common UV silvers, can generate excess waste and downtime for a printer. SICURA FLEX LED solves this problem. In addition, a version of the SICURA FLEX LED METALLIC is available in high shrink formulations to minimize loss in brilliance during the shrink process.



SICURA FLEX LED SILVER on left & competitive silver on right extended 40% to resist foaming. Photo taken 1 hour after running.



Same product on a flow meter to illustrate SICURA FLEX LED 877 SILVER's ability to maintain flow during a run.

SICURA FLEX LED METALLICS

Shrink Silver 877 Gold 871-876
 Mirror Finish VMP Silver Silver 877

MORGANTON FACILITY IS NOW ISO 9001:2008 CERTIFIED



Siegwerk Environmental Ink is pleased to announce it has been awarded the ISO 9001:2008 Management System certificate by the ISOQAR for both manufacturer of water-based and energy curable printing inks and coatings.

"We are extremely proud of our team and their efforts to attain the ISO 9001 certification" says Chris Booher, President- Narrow Web. "Clearly there was a foundation of a quality process in place prior to the certification, and it was due to the diligence of Bill McCurry, Quality Systems Manager and the contributing team in keeping up the process that enabled us to pursue the ISO certification on a timely and cost efficient basis. Our ISO 9001 certification reflects our long term commitment to quality and our customers."

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 Ft. Worth, Texas
 Booth # 426



LABELXPO AMERICAS 2016

Labelexpo | September 13-15
 Chicago, Illinois
 Booth # 5923



Press Stability In Water Based Ink Solution - Ultra Pro Inks

An issue which often plagues converters using water-based flexo inks is ink press stability over the length of a run. Press stability involves ink rheology, which includes both viscosity and flow, and in the case of water-based inks, pH control.

As water-based inks are exposed to the atmosphere during a run, the amines and co-solvents within the inks evaporate resulting in decreased pH, increased viscosity and decreased flow. For this reason, ink maintenance is required to ensure that the inks continue to perform at an optimal level. While evaporation of the liquid components is to an extent unavoidable, another contributing factor which can be better controlled is foaming. Foam accelerates all of the factors which contribute to poor press stability. Foam can increase the evaporation of critical amines which are vital to pH maintenance. Foam also affects ink flow causing "short-bodied" inks that do not respond well to efforts made to lower the viscosity through dilution with water or extender. Foam is a root cause of many press stability issues.

Many of the narrow web presses in use today have relatively wide, shallow ink pans which pose some interesting challenges to water-based inks.

The configuration of these ink pans/fountains results in a disproportionate ink to air interface, which when combined with the turbulence generated by the fast moving fountain roll or anilox roll, have a tendency to induce foam into the inks. While the fountain design is a challenge for the ink chemist, there are other advantages to the converter which outweigh the effects on inks.

The challenge for the ink chemist is to produce an ink that will perform well on these narrow web presses by selecting an efficient defoamer package to both prevent and combat foam. Likewise, the "rewet" package of the ink must be such that the tendency to flash off quickly is minimized, resulting in a more stable pH during a press run. Finally, the inks need to feature an ink vehicle package that yields efficient ink transfer, clean release from the plates, and a near Newtonian flow.

The chemists at Siegwirk Environmental Inks have considered all of these factors during the design phase of the Ultra Pro water-based flexo ink series. Ultra Pro inks are designed for narrow web, label applications and feature a state of the art defoamer package, as well as, a rewet package that insures enhanced pH stability and cleaner printing inks over the course of a run. While Ultra Pro is not maintenance free, it does require less maintenance and is indeed "user-friendly". Ultra Pro comes in three different strength levels to conform to the converter's anilox inventories and is supported by the proprietary color match system of FastMatch – Color on Demand and Easy Ink Controller – an ink management system. If you are battling ink stability on press, you should consider trialing the Ultra Pro ink solution to increase the productivity of your investments.



Questions?
Contact us at
info.us@siegwerk.com

**Exciting
Announcement**

We are pleased to announce our new branding effort to reflect our growth and corporate strategy. Throughout 2016 you will see Environment Inks rebranded as Siegwirk Environmental Inks. It will be the same great product and service, just an updated name and logo.

Your business is important to us and we look forward to continuing a long and mutually successful business partnership with you under our new brand.