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.

Upcoming Tradeshows

Stop by and visit us at:

**INFO FLEX 2016**
Ft. Worth, Texas
Booth # 426

**LABELEXPO AMERICAS 2016**
Chicago, Illinois
Booth # 5923
Press Stability In Water Based Ink Solution - Ultra Pro Inks

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.

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 chemists at Siegwerk 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 Siegwerk 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.