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E·K·O™

PVC-Free Plastisol



PVC-FREE TECHNOLOGY WITH THE
CONVENIENCE OF PLASTISOL





Rutland EKO is an innovative PVC-Free Ink system based on a unique non-PVC acrylic chemistry.

The EKO Ink system is a combination of Ready for Use (RFU) Inks, Pigments, Bases, Additives, and Specialties products that provides customers the tools to achieve PANTONE simulated colors and various effects.

Rutland EKO Ink system is the best option in the marketplace for our customers to meet PVC-Free requirements, while providing the convenience and printability of traditional PVC plastisol systems.

The EKO Ink system is cured at a wet-ink film temperature of at least 300-320°F (149-160°C) to provide superior performance on even difficult to print fabrics.

EKO PRODUCT LINE

GROUP	DESCRIPTION	USAGE
RFU Ink	EKO Whites – Cotton and Low Bleed (both in regular and High Opacity HO versions).	Used a stand alone white, or in combination with the RFU mixing colors.
RFU Ink	EKO RFU Mixing Colors (including Fluorescents).	Ready for use colors in a palette of 14 primaries to achieve PANTONE or DYSTAR colors.
RFU Ink	EKO Barrier Black.	Underlay for use on polyester and cotton/poly blends and digital sublimation fabrics.
Base	Bases and clears.	Various bases and additives to use in combination with RFU White and Colors.
Pigments	Metallics, thermochromics, glitters and other types.	To obtain various special effects.
Additives	EKO-Bond Additive.	Used to improve the abrasion resistance and toughness of the ink film.
Additives	Suede and Puff Additives.	To obtain suede and puff effects.
Viscosity / Rheology Additives	Thickeners, Thinners, Soft and HD additives, Fast Flash additives.	Used to improve the abrasion resistance and toughness of the ink film.

UNIQUE FEATURES

FEATURES

Excellent adhesion

Adheres strongly to fabrics.

BENEFITS

Highly suitable for smooth fabrics such as polyester or blends.

Easy to use without drying in screens

Provides a robust and flexible system similar to a plastisol ink.

Higher speed and throughput in printing, less breakdowns and improved process efficiency.

Low Crocking

Helps with printing of intense colors without compromising fastness.

Ideal for brightly colored apparel and performance wear.

Passes the stringent 5 X 60°C Miele Wash Testing

High degree of wash fastness.

Perfect for clothing subject to industrial wash conditions such as sportswear apparel.

Approved by major brands as non-PVC system under RSL and other regulations

Provides an ideal system to meet non-PVC requirements.

Suitable for printing of many major sports brands apparel.

RECOMMENDED BEST PRACTICES

■ APPLICATIONS

For maximum opacity and brilliance of colors, use Cotton White or Low Bleed White as an under base. With 100% polyester fabrics, use Barrier Black as an under base to prevent dye migration.

■ PROCESS

Prepress conditions can be the same as traditional PVC plastisol.

■ FLASH (TIME AND TEMPERATURE)

4 - 6 seconds or less on hot pallets that are at least above 120°F (49°C).

■ SQUEEGEE

Recommended squeegee is a medium 60-70 durometer.

■ CURING

For best cure of the inks, we recommend a minimum ink film temperature of 300°F (as measured on wet ink) for a period of 15-20 seconds. This can be typically achieved with 60 seconds dwell time in the oven that is set above a temperature of 320°F.

■ CLEANING UP

Same as traditional PVC plastisol inks.

■ BREAKDOWN OR STOPPAGE PROCEDURES

Similar to traditional PVC plastisol inks.

■ CONTAMINANTS TO AVOID

None.

■ MESH

Recommended mesh count of 24-305.

■ STORAGE CONDITIONS

Keep lid on container to prevent contamination and store at 65°F to 95°F (18°C to 35°C). Always remix prior to use, as there may be separation on storage.

■ LIMITATIONS

Not intended for wet-on-wet printing. Not intended for ironing or dry cleaning.

