

# Printing Guidelines

## LITHO



**Use formulated (not reduced) extra low tack inks and a hard blanket for printing pre die cut labels.**

### **PAPER GRADES**

The paper grades used should be treated in the same manner as non adhesive coated papers and fully oxidising inks used when required (e.g. coated grades including gloss white, gold silver etc). If materials are to be over printed by laser or copier ensure that the correct heat stable litho inks are used.

Always re-wrap in polythene bags and box any printed stock to be subsequently over printed by laser or copier.

Leave pre-litho printed stock for 4 - 5 days before laser/copier printing.

### **POLYESTER GRADES**

Use fully oxidising inks specifically formulated for polyester materials (standard paper grade oxidising inks are not suitable).

Ensure all traces of oil based inks and varnishes are removed from the ink delivery system.

Run press as dry as possible as excessive damping will retard drying.

Check suitability of product for printed matter and process e.g. images achieved using 1 print station on paper may require 2 print stations for polyester grades.

Run 4 colour work in one pass. It is not advisable to run 4 colour work on polyesters using a single or 2 colour press.

Avoid excessive use of spray powder- use a LIGHT coating ONLY. Do NOT use dissolvable spray powder as this will affect the keying process.

If material is to be subsequently laser or copier printed ensure the correct laser compatible inks are used and the ink has completely cured (at least 7 days).

**For more information on suitable inks for use with Polyester grades please contact:  
PJF Printing Inks (Paul Freemantle) on 01933 271201**

### **Litho Pre-print/Overprint laser.**

Use laser compatible inks and leave for a period of at least 5 days before laser or copier printing. Re-seal in polythene bags and protect from damage.

NB It is not advisable to pre-print by colour laser and subsequently overprint by mono laser or copier. The higher fusing temperature in mono lasers is likely to soften and smudge the original colour print. For pre printed fixed information it is advisable to print litho.

**As all presses and images are different the onus must be on the printer to ensure that the print conditions are correct for the material type and job to be printed. The printing information is given in good faith in order to assist with the correct choice of materials, inks and press conditions. However, we cannot be held responsible for any errors or omissions.**