

Workwear Emblems

What are Workwear Emblems?

Workwear emblems are an effective way of producing excellent industrial wash process resistant decoration. Typically prints are produced by printing images onto poly-cotton material, backed with a suitable hot-melt adhesive. This pre-backed adhesive material can either be printed with a coating white to improve wash resistance and print definition, or printed directly with 2-pack solvent-based ink systems.

Printing Instructions

Coating White

If a coating white is required, depending on the type of emblem to be used, the best recommendation to maintain flexibility, whilst maximising opacity is to use Nylobag NB033 Coating White. Typically a mesh count of 62 would be used for this coating technique.

Mixing Instructions

The standard recommendation is to use NB033 Nylobag Coating White, catalysed at a ratio of 9 parts ink to 1 part catalyst. Thinning can be performed using ZE805 Nylo Thinner or ZE806 Nylo Retarder, however for maximum opacity and improved overprint definition we would recommend printing the product unthinned.

Colours

A range of 19 fully intermixable colours is available, please see the Nylobag Product Information Sheet for further information. Whilst these products have been formulated for production through mesh counts of 34-110 threads per cm, due to the harsh nature of the industrial wash process we would not recommend using mesh counts finer than 62. If improved detail is required, an overprint layer of NX381 Nylotex Extender Base is recommended.

For maximum wash fastness, particular colours can be improved by the addition of 1% ZE811 Hold Out Additive. This in conjunction with catalysing at up to 20% with NB386 has been shown to improve wash-resistance in extreme laundry conditions. This addition is not normally required, with the Nylobag NB product (catalysed at ratios of 9:1) typically outlasting the garment life.

Pin-holing (small pin like areas of under colour showing through) is unlikely to occur with the Nylobag NB ink system. However, on particular pre-smoothed backed materials the surface coating can lead to pin-holing occurring. To overcome this, an addition of 1% ZEA09 Flow Additive is recommended.

Transfer

Transfer conditions are dependent on the pre-backed sheet used. Correctly catalysed, Nylobag NB will not re-melt at typical transfer temperature conditions (170-210°C).

Summary

Using the Workwear Emblem system can be of enormous benefit, both to the wash-fastness of garments, the ease of use, and the speed of production. It should be remembered, however, as with all printing techniques, that it requires testing and practice to achieve the best results.

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