



# APPVION

## **COMPATIBLE FLEXOGRAPHIC INKS GUIDELINE**

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### **Compatible Flexographic water based inks:**

North America:

Flint Group Thermokett HR  
Siegwerk Thermal Narrow Web  
Actega/Water Ink Technologies Thermal  
Interactive Inks and Coatings Thermal  
Environmental Inks Thermal  
INX Thermal

European:

Flint Group Thermokett TC  
Sun Solaris Aquaverse

Asia:

Flint Group Thermokett TC  
Ming Fong Packaging & Chemical

### **Compatible UV-curable Flexographic:**

North America:

Siegwerk  
Sun Chemical  
Flint Group Gemini  
Flint Group Flexocure Force  
Environmental Inks and Coatings  
Actega/Water ink Technologies

European:

Zeller+Gmelin Uvaflex  
Flint Group Gemini  
Flint Group Flexocure Force  
Fuji Film UVIVID

Asia:

Flint Group Gemini

### **Compatible UV-curable Letterpress:**

Asia:

Hang Hua TOKA UVCURE Bestcure



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**Compatibility Testing** includes the following considerations:

## Printability

Printability testing evaluates the inks ability to perform under normal press conditions and produce normal color tones upon application to the Direct Thermal substrate. Inks are printed on a narrow web flexographic press at run-speed using mid-line-screen anilox then evaluated for ink drying, ink adhesion and ink density.



Pre-print testing is performed using similar line anilox and identical graphical formatting helping to keep results consistent between evaluations.

## Compatibility

Compatibility testing checks if any ink component will compromise thermal imaging performance of the substrate. Printed substrate is exposed to high heat and humidity versus unprinted control. Samples are thermally imaged prior to exposure and then select samples are imaged post exposure.

## Thermal imaging performance

Thermal image performance testing will detect any gross incompatibility the printed ink may have with the heat and pressure exposure found during thermal imaging.



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Pre-printed samples are imaged with the same thermal image format and settings.

In general, the inks should not show dramatic streaking or smearing under our standard conditions. Residue characteristics should not deviate from competitive benchmarking. Several variables will contribute to the imaging performance of a pre-printed thermal substrate including:

- Thermal imaging device
- Thermal imaging heat settings
- Presence of thermal top coating
- Presence of over print varnish
- Ink cure method (UV, evaporation, etc)
- Degree of ink cure
- Amount of ink applied during printing