Plastic Prep Cleaner

Prepare Substrates for High-Quality UV Printing

Developed as an anti-static agent, Matthews Paint Plastic Prep Cleaner allows for high-quality printing on UV-printable substrates by cleaning the surface and eliminating static charge.

Features & Benefits:

- Allows for high-quality printing on PVC, textured PVC, acrylic, digital-grade printable substrates, polycarbonate, melamine and counter tops
- Cleans surface removing dirt, oils, dust, outgassing residue, and plasticizer migration
- Low maintenance, easy to use and apply
- More effective as an anti-static cleaning agent than isopropyl alcohol and ammonia-based glass cleaners

Importance of Eliminating Static Charge

Static electricity on a substrate’s surface may affect print quality. Static can diffuse the ink drops, pushing them away from the designated adhesion point directed by the print head. It can also cause “drop fracture” or “drop break off” that creates hazy prints and un-sharp edges. This condition can also leave ink on the carriage, resulting in additional and more frequent maintenance issues.
How to Apply Plastic Prep Cleaner

Application Directions

1. Transfer 6428SP/01 Plastic Prep Cleaner into a clean plastic spray application bottle.

2. Use lint-free cellulose wipes/sheets instead of towels (Blue "Shop Towels" or Kimberly-Clark "WypAll"). Fold wipes/sheets into square panels.

3. Use the spray bottle to "spritz" enough 6428SP/01 Plastic Prep Cleaner to make the wipe/sheet damp but not enough to drip from the wipe/sheet.

4. Reach across to the middle of the substrate and wipe in linear (not circular) swipes, working your way back towards the outer edge of the substrate.

5. Repeat the linear cleaning motion across the substrate surface and from the other side to ensure the entire substrate has been cleaned.

6. Change folded sides of the wipe/sheet or the cloth itself after several wipes. Folding or changing wipes/sheets after several cleaning passes protects the substrate from transplanting unseen oils or plasticizers back onto the substrate.

7. Inspect the wipe/sheet as you progress through the cleaning process. If dragging along the edge, you may begin to catch the wipe/sheet and create snags or even shred the wipe/sheet. Replace as necessary.

8. Re-apply spray application of the 6428SP/01 Plastic Prep Cleaner to the folded towel when it appears to become dry or when you replace wipe/sheet with a new one.

Application Notes

- Apply 6428SP/01 Plastic Prep Cleaner with conventional or HVLP equipment.
- Each substrate panel should be cleaned thoroughly using the process described on the left before use in the printer.
- It is strongly recommended that the cleaning cloth be changed or "swapped out" after cleaning 2-3 boards. Even if the substrate appears not to be that dirty or dusty, repeated use of the same cleaning cloths ultimately transfers contaminants/oils from one sheet to the next.
- Printability of various substrates is always subject to testing. Various factors can affect the print quality such as: white point, surface variations, stability of substrate when subjected to heat, dyne level/surface tension of the substrate, cleaning, and static.