Norcote Technical Bulletin



80 Series UV Curable Ink System

The 80 Series is recommended for use on polyethylene (container and flat sheet), soft vinyl's (French calf, suedene, patent, etc.), some flat sheet polypropylene, PVC, polycarbonate, PETE, PETG, most decal materials, many polyesters (print treated and top-coated), paper and card stocks, styrene, most acrylics, bookcloths and some coated metals. It is the responsibility of the end user to pretest all substrates with Norcote® products prior to use in production.

Product Features

- Abrasion Resistant
- · Chemical Resistant
- Opaque
- Quick Curing
- Resistant to Blocking
- Great Intercoat Adhesion
- Multi-purpose Product

Printing Recommendations:

All inks should be thoroughly mixed prior to use. Inks are supplied at print ready viscosity for most applications. If adjustment is needed the 80-070 Thinner or 80-049 Overprint Clear can be used to thin the ink. **Do not microwave this product.**

Mesh:

A mesh count of 255-380 threads per linear inch (100-150 cm²) low elongation, monofilament polyester is suggested. Tension should range from 18-25 N/cm² on a rigid frame.

Stencil:

All direct emulsions and thin capillary films (15-25 μ before application) compatible with UV inks are acceptable.

Squeegee:

A sharp 80 shore durometer polyurethane squeegee is preferred. Inks can be printed with durometers ranging from 60-90 as well as dual durometer squeegees.

Curing Parameters:

Norcote® 80 Series inks cure only when exposed to UV light of the proper wavelength. Curing speeds depend on several factors including ink film thickness and the energy level of the lamps. Ink should be cured immediately after printing.

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Curing Equipment:

80 Series inks are fast curing and work well with one 300 watts/in (120 watts/cm) or two 200 watt/in (80 watts/cm) focused medium pressure mercury vapor lamps with millipules (mJ) and (mW) of:

200 mJ/cm2 @ 600 + mW/ cm² minimum for most colors and clears.

300 mJ/cm2 @ 600 + mW/ cm² minimum for opaque colors (blacks, whites, tans, grays, metallics, etc.). The 80 Series inks will cure up to 100 feet per minute (30 meters per minute) with most focused UV curing units.

Screen Cleaning:

Most conventional solvent cleaners work well. Alcohol based solutions must be avoided as they break down the emulsion. Norcote recommends Press Wash 110 (flash point 113° F), 140 (flash point 140° F) or NSW-824 (flash point 150° F). These products are used for cleaning ink off screens during on press color changes or before storing the screen. They work well when removing ink from squeegees, flood bars and other equipment. Contact us for packaging options.

Coverage:

Approximately 2,500 square feet per gallon (230 square meters per gallon) depending on printing variables affecting ink film thickness and coverage.

Mixing:

All Norcote® 80 Series colors are intermixable. They may also be mixed with the 88 Matte Series inks to provide a wide range of gloss levels. Addition of 88 Series inks will impair 80 Series surface durability.

Precautions:

Avoid direct contact of ink with skin and clothing. If contact occurs, wash affected area with warm soapy water and dry thoroughly. If eye contact occurs, irrigate the area with water for 15 minutes and consult a physician. For more specific information, refer to the relevant Material Safety Data Sheet.

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Adhesion:

The 80 Series is a nonvisual post-curing system. Although further cross-linking occurs up to 24 hours later, the 80 Series inks should pass a crosshatch tape test, (ASTM #D3359-97), using 3-M 600 tape after exiting the curing unit and cooling to room temperature.

Intercoat Adhesion:

80 Series inks intercoat adhesion is very good. Although loss of intercoat adhesion is difficult, it should be monitored throughout the production run especially when printing 6 or more passes. Use of additives may adversely affect intercoat adhesion.

Weatherability:

Weather resistance is subject to conditions of use. Consult the Technical Service Department prior to use for information regarding weather resistance of the 80 Series inks.

Scoring and Folding:

The 80 Series inks provides fair results under controlled scoring and folding conditions. To obtain acceptable results, the 80 Series inks must pass a crosshatch tape test, (using 3-M 600 tape) before scoring and folding. Highly pigmented (opaque) inks and inks with special effects pigments may not score or fold well. For further details contact the Norcote® Technical Service Department.

Chemical Resistance:

The 80 Series inks have been exposed to a variety of chemicals to determine chemical resistance. 80 Series inks have proved to be resistant to most common chemicals when properly cured.

Process Colors:

80 Series Halftone Process inks were designed for 4-color process printing. Color density can be adjusted with the addition of process toners or 060 Halftone Base. To achieve a minimum ink deposit, thus reducing pile height and dot gain, one should use a minimum stencil thickness.

Metallic Colors:

Most metallic pigments work well with the 80-049 Overprint Clear. Ability to cure a suspension is related to pigment load and UV exposure. Select mesh with openings large enough to transfer the metallic pigments of choice; generally a mesh count of 305 threads per inch (120/cm) or lower is required. Metallic pigments will reduce the shelf life of 80 Series ink mixtures. RECOMMENDATION: Mix only enough metallic ink for one day.

Color Range:

Specific colors can be matched at Norcote® against prints, wet ink or PANTONE® numbers.

Standard Colors:

Stallaala Colols.	
Mixing White	002
Opaque White	1046
Non-Chalking Opaque White	1056
Mixing Black	005
Opaque Black	1019
Deadfront Black	1022
Brown	007
Radiant Yellow	012 •
Brilliant Yellow	016 •
Medium Yellow	017
Opaque Yellow	2233
Lightfast Yellow	2313
Permanent Orange	019•
Lightfast Orange	2872
Red	022
Rhodamine Red	023
Rose	024
Magenta	026
Emerald Green	030
Spruce Green	031
Permanent Blue	034
Violet	035
Reflex Blue	037
Peacock Blue	038
Overprint Clear	049
Process Blue	050
Opaque Process Blue	2021

• May not be suitable for lightfast applications and is not recommended for prolonged exposure to direct sunlight.

Process Colors:

Halftone Base	060
Halftone Process Cyan	080
Halftone Process Magenta	081
Halftone Process Yellow	082
Halftone Process Black	083
Process Cyan Toner	880
Process Magenta Toner	881
Process Yellow Toner	882
Process Black Toner	883

Fluorescent Colors/JZB's:

i idolescelle colors/3203.	
Aurora Pink (Blue shade)	11 B
Aurora Pink (Yellow shade)	11 Y
Rocket Red	13
Fire Orange	14
Blaze Orange	15
Arc Yellow	16
Saturn Yellow	17
Signal Green	18
Horizon Blue	801
Corona Magenta	21

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Transparents:

Transparent Red 092
Transparent Green 093
Transparent Blue 094
Transparent Yellow 095
Lt LED Red 2286
Dk LED Red 2287

All transparent colors have limited intercoat adhesion

Additives:

Check the Norcote Additives list for the products compatible with this ink series. The list is available on our website at www.norcote.com or call us at 800-488-9180 to receive a copy.

Storage & Available Warranties

All UV 80 Series inks should be stored in tightly closed, black polyethylene containers in an area with the temperature not to exceed 90° F (32.2° C). Avoid direct sunlight and indirect white light. Excess ink from print runs should be stored in separate containers to avoid contamination and is not covered under any warranty. When stored under these conditions, Norcote warrants the Products shall be free from defects in material and manufacture for a period of one (1) year from the date of sale for the 80 Series standard inks, with no additives, and for a period of one (1) month from the date of sale for any custom color containing Day Glo® JZB or T-Powder. Norcote will not warrant any custom colors containing metallic pastes or any inks intermixed with competitor products. Any warranties provided will be limited to the price paid for the actual products used which give rise to the warranty claim.

This Technical Bulletin is intended to be used for informational purposes only, and is in no way intended to create any warranties or other obligations on behalf of Norcote. All warranties, terms and/or conditions for a particular product will be specified on the applicable invoice and are only valid upon the creation of a legally-binding contract.

Testing

Due to the inability of Norcote to anticipate or control the conditions under which the Products and information relating thereto will be used and/or stored, Norcote cannot guarantee the results obtained from using the Products. Any Suggested Uses are merely representative, and because the final product will depend on a number of specific factors, the end user should pretest all substrates with the Products prior to use in production.

Metallics:

Gold Paste	040	(see note)
Silver Paste	042	
Red Gold Paste	044	
Copper Paste	046	
Rich Gold Ink	240	
Silver Ink	242	

• 040 paste should be stored between 18C-35C to avoid solidification. If this occurs, reliquify the paste by placing it in an area with temperatures of 25C-35C.

*PVC Plastics:

Decoration can aggravate embrittlement properties of PVC plastics which can lead to cracking and failure of the plastic. It is strongly recommended that the end user contact the polymer manufacturer to obtain information on the suitability for decorating with a UV ink as well as recommendations for molding / processing to reduce this potential. As every situation can not be tested for in a laboratory environment, it is the responsibility of the end user to determine the suitability of the products chosen for an end application.

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