# Norcote Technical Bulletin



# PPC7 Series UV Curable Ink System

# Suggested Uses:

The PPC7 Series was designed for use in many common container and tube applications where direct printing is required. This series is suitable for use on treated HDPE, treated LDPE tubes and containers, treated Polypropylene, Styrene, PET and PVC. For some applications requiring PET, flame treatment may be necessary to achieve acceptable adhesion. For additional suggestions and information, please contact Technical Service. It is the responsibility of the end user to pretest all substrates with Norcote<sup>®</sup> products prior to use in production.

# **Product Features**

- One Part
- Incredibly Flexible
- Compatible With Multiple Substrates
- Chemical Resistant
   Passes Multiple Acetone Wipes
- Quick Curing
   Hard Surface for Immediate Packaging
- Superb Gloss
- High Definition
- Enhanced Flow
  Minimal Waste During Start-Up (1-5 Containers)
- Excellent Intercoat Adhesion

# **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 PPC7-070 Thinner or PPC7-049 Clear can be used to thin the ink. Do not microwave this product. Note that very high or low temperatures can change the ink's viscosity. This in turn can affect flow properties, print definition and the color opacity of the ink.

#### Mesh:

A mesh count of 355 threads per linear inch and higher (140 cm<sup>2</sup>) low elongation, monofilament polyester is suggested. Tension should range from 18-25 N/cm<sup>2</sup> on a rigid frame.

# Stencil:

All direct emulsions and thin capillary films (15-25 $\mu$  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.

506 Lafayette Avenue Crawfordsville, IN USA 47933 Toll Free: 800-488-9180 / Ph: 765-362-9180 Fax: 765-364-5408 email: info@norcote.com www.norcote.com Norcote<sup>®</sup> Int'l Pte. Ltd. Blk 4012 Ang Mo Kio Ave 10 # 05-08 Techplace 1 Singapore 569628 +65-6291-0898 email: info.asia@norcote.com



# **Curing Parameters:**

Curing speeds depend on several factors including ink film thickness and the energy level of the lamps. The PPC7 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 millijoules (mJ) and (mW) of:

200 mJ/cm2 @ 600 + mW/ cm<sup>2</sup> minimum for most colors and clears.

300 mJ/cm2 @ 600 + mW/ cm<sup>2</sup> minimum for opaque colors (blacks, whites, tans, grays, metallics, etc.).

# Adhesion:

The PPC7 Series is a nonvisual post-curing system. Although further cross-linking occurs up to 24 hours later, the PPC7 Series inks should pass a crosshatch tape test, (ASTM #D3359-97), using 3M 600 tape after exiting the curing unit and cooling to room temperature. In-line, direct flame treat of Polyethylene containers is recommended for optimum performance. The majority of PET and Styrene materials will not require flame treatment.

#### **Intercoat Adhesion:**

PPC7 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.

# **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. Note: Coverage, cure and color are affected by the mesh count, screen tension, squeegee durometer and other press variables.

Norcote<sup>®</sup> Int'l Ltd. Unit 8, Warrior Park Chandlers Ford Ind. Est. Eastleigh Hampshire UK S 053 4NF +44-2380-270542 email: info@nor-cote.co.uk Norcote Internacionales de Mexico S.A. de C.V. Ave Adolfo Ruiz Cortines 109 Col. Nueva Liberta Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon MX 67120 +52-81-8394-8299 email: infomexico@norcote.com

#### Mixing

All Norcote® PPC7 Series colors are intermixable.

#### **Chemical Resistance:**

The PPC7 Series inks have been exposed to a variety of chemicals to determine chemical resistance. PPC7 Series inks have proved to resist most common chemicals when properly cured. Allow 10-15 minute post cure prior to testing chemical resistance. For details contact the Technical Service Department.

#### Water Resistance:

If water resistance is required, a cross-hatch tape adhesion must be attained upon exiting the curing unit and before any further testing is performed. Test thoroughly for conformance to your specific water resistance requirements.

# **Metallic Colors:**

Most metallic pigments work well with the PPC7-049 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 PPC7 Series ink mixtures. RECOMMENDATION: Mix only enough metallic ink for one day.

#### **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.

# **Color Range:**

Specific colors can be matched at Nor-Cote<sup>®</sup> against prints, wet ink or PANTONE<sup>®</sup> numbers.

Standard Colors:	
Radiant Yellow	PPC7-012 •
Brilliant Yellow	PPC7-016 •
Permanent Orange	PPC7-019 •
Cha-Cha Red	PPC7-021
Red	PPC7-022
Rhodamine Red	PPC7-023
Rose	PPC7-024
Emerald Green	PPC7-030
Spruce Green	PPC7-031
Permanent Blue	PPC7-034
Violet	PPC7-035
Reflex Blue	PPC7-037
Primrose Yellow	PPC7-201
Lightfast Clm Orange	PPC7-214
Opaque Yellow	PPC7-2233
Lightfast Yellow	PPC7-2313
Lightfast Orange	PPC7-2872

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

# Whites, Blacks and Clears:

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Mixing White	PPC7-002	
Opaque White	PPC7-1046	
Non-Chalking Opaque White	PPC7-1056	
Nano Opaque White	PPC7-1057	
Mixing Black	PPC7-005	
Opaque Black	PPC7-1019	
Jet Black	PPC7-4100	
Mixing Base	PPC7-000 ◊	
Overprint Clear	PPC7-049	
High Viscosity Overprint Clear	PPC7-055	

# Fluorescent Colors T Powders:

Aurora Pink (Blue shade)	T-11
Rocket Red	T-13
Fire Orange	T-14
Blaze Orange	T-15
Arc Yellow	T-16
Saturn Yellow	T-17
Signal Green	T-18
Horizon Blue	T-19
Corona Magenta	T-21

#### Metallics:

Gold Paste	040	<ul> <li>(See Note)</li> </ul>
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.

# **OPPC7-000 Mixing Base**

Caution, this product is **very** reactive to fluorescent and incandescent light when not mixed into a pigmented ink. The ink can set up within 10-15 minutes. Store properly away from light sources. The PPC7-000 should be addedd into pigmented ink. This product increases cure and adhesion rates.

# **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.

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# **Storage & Available Warranties**

All UV PPC7 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). Do not freeze. Do not store ink below 32°F. 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 PPC7 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 legallybinding 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.

#### **\*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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506 Lafayette Avenue Crawfordsville, IN USA 47933 Toll Free: 800-488-9180 / Ph: 765-362-9180 Fax: 765-364-5408 email: info@norcote.com www.norcote.com

Norcote<sup>®</sup> Int'l Pte. Ltd. Blk 4012 Ang Mo Kio Ave 10 # 05-08 Techplace 1 Singapore 569628 +65-6291-0898 email: info.asia@norcote.com Norcote<sup>®</sup> Int'l Ltd. Unit 8, Warrior Park Chandlers Ford Ind. Est. Eastleigh Hampshire UK S 053 4NF +44-2380-270542 email: info@nor-cote.co.uk Norcote Internacionales de Mexico S.A. de C.V. Ave Adolfo Ruiz Cortines 109 Col. Nueva Liberta Guadalupe, Nuevo Leon MX 67120 +52-81-8394-8299 email: infomexico@norcote.com