

GO dMax 4 Inkjet Film FAQs



Q. How did GO (Graphics One) become involved in the manufacturing of inkjet color separation film?

A. GO has been distributing Wasatch SoftRIP SP (screen print) on an international basis since it was launched. Since a special film is required for the SP application, film availability is a must. Many of our customers had problems obtaining proper film for this application and requested our help in obtaining film. This was the genesis of dMax 4 film.

Q. Is GO the manufacturer of this product line?

A. GO has formed a partnership with one of the larger film and coating manufacturers in the world to produce dMax 4. The research scientist who developed the coating for GO is a contract partner and holds a patent on the coating technology used in GO dMax 4 film.

Q. What is the difference between dMax 4 and other lower quality films?

A. Many film products offered for inkjet separations are simply normal films pressed into service as film-positive separations. Normal film lacks the dimensional stability, humidity resistance and ability to image densities high enough for color separations.

Q. What are the most important questions to ask to determine if other films offer the capabilities of dMax 4?

- Is the film water resistant?
- Is the coating microporous?
- Does the film use OptiCoat 6 layer technology?
- Does the film offer a density high enough for imaging screens?
- Is the film archivable for reuse?
- Is the film stable enough?

MARKETING FAQs

Q. Why is it important to have a microporous coating on color separation film?

A. Microporous coating technology provides higher ink absorption resulting in higher density and a faster drying time. Microporous coatings differ from smooth coatings in that there are an infinite number of "pores" where the ink can embed itself in the coating.

Q. Why does a user need waterproof film?

A. The film can be reused to reburn screens and also protects against accidental spills.

Q. How can a user tell which side is the printable side?

A. One side is smooth the other has a texture feeling. The textured side is the inkjet receptive side. The smooth side is just the carrier sheet and is not inkjet receptive.

Q. What are the special features of dMax 4?

A. The special features of dMax 4 OptiCoat technology are as follows:

- Waterproof
- Microporous
- High density
- Fast drying
- Dimensionally stable
- High resolution for fine lines and halftones
- Archivable
- Universal coating
- Roll and sheet
- Multiple sizes

Q. Why is the six layer Opticoat technology different than other films?

A. GO's dMax 4 starts with a 4 mil polyester film base for dimensional stability with the back coated with an antistatic layer. The front layer starts with a density primer for enhancing density, an ink absorption layer, a waterproof layer followed by a microporous coating. The Opticoat technology results in an outstanding inkjet color separation film not offered by others.

Q. What type of inks can be used with dMax 4?

A. GO's dMax 4 works with both piezo and thermal inks. Generally dMax 4 was formulated to work with dye ink, but also works with pigment inks.

Q. Does a user need a special ink for dMax 4?

A. No, a special ink is not required for use with GO dMax 4 ink. As a general rule, dye ink works better with microporous film than pigment inks.

MARKETING FAQs

Q. Why does GO offer dMax 4 Ink if a special ink is not required?

A. For those users who are doing high volume color separations, it is best to use GO's dMax 4 ink for the following reasons:

- Self dispersing technology includes resin bonds which forms a chemical bond with the film making it scratch resistant
- Fast drying
- Water resistant
- Particle size of pigment is between 50~60 nanometers so it penetrates the microporous coating providing a higher density than dye ink
- Provides higher density due to UV enhancers
- Longer life expectancy

Q. Are there any registration issues inherent in the use of an inkjet film?

A. The accuracy or registration is dependent upon the inkjet printer being used. This is different with printers using thermal or laser printheads where heat can cause registration errors. The 4 mil film base is as dimensionally stable as traditional graphic arts film.

Q. Do different screens, such as stochastic or traditional dot centered rosettes, work well with dMax 4?

A. There are no issues with different types of screens as long as the film has been linearized properly.

Q. Can dMax 4 be manufactured to a custom size?

A. Yes, but it is dependent upon quantities desired. Please call GO sales.

Q. Which RIP do we recommend for this application?

A. GO only recommends Wasatch SoftRIP SP for this application. SoftRIP SP has little competition in this application area.