

## **TECHNICAL DATA SHEET**

## SHORT DESCRIPTION:

As one of our original polyester ink formulas, Athletic Series (formerly Athletic 3001 Series) is a great choice for those needing a soft, stretchy ink option for thin polyester tees and uniforms.

# **QUICK SPECIFICATIONS:**



MESH COUNT 86 to 125 This is simply a <u>recommendation</u> based on printing difficult fabrics such as 100% polyester. Preventing dye migration requires a generous ink deposit. However, Athletic Series inks will print through finer mesh with ease.



FLASH CURE 4/5: Quick

The rating of **QUICK** implies a flash cure performance faster than most plastisol inks. Due to the great number of variables involved, we cannot specify a specific flash time or temperature. However, this ink should flash dry much quicker than general purpose ink.



INK CURING 320°F to 330°F

Washing and drying your prints to check durability is the ultimate test of ink curing. However, the use of Thermolabels is the most sensible method of testing for your day-to-day operations. This will help you prevent cracking, peeling, and washout.



SQUEEGEES 70 Durometer

Squeegees are one of many variables controlling your ink deposit. Softer squeegees are capable of printing thicker while hard squeegees allow for better print resolution. 60 durometer is soft. 70 durometer is medium. 80 durometer is hard.



Many cleaning products will remove plastisol ink. We <u>recommend</u> Saatichem PW-4 for cleaning on-press. The IR-26 is ideal when cleaning in a washout booth. Cleaning the ink out of the screen immediately after printing is always recommended.



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## ATHLETIC SERIES BENEFITS:

- Excellent opacity and bleed resistance for use on the most difficult fabrics.
- Very good stretch for use on polyester/stretch fabrics.
- Easy to print viscosity for both manual and automatic presses.
- Available in an excellent athletic-shade color palette.

#### **IDEAL CURING GUIDELINES:**

Cure the Athletic Series at the temperatures listed below (measure with a Thermolabel). Curing is a time and temperature process. A lower temperature with a slower belt speed is always the best method.

100% Cotton	Poly/Cotton	Polyester	Nylon/Stretch	100% Nylon	Polypropylene	Rayon
Х	х	320°F*	х	Х	х	Х

<sup>\*</sup>Athletic White and colors must be printed with other polyester inks. Do not print Athletic White as an underbase for cotton or poly/cotton inks.

#### **TIPS AND TRICKS:**

- If you are not achieving the opacity you would expect from one of our top coverage inks, consider changing emulsion or increasing the number of coats.
- On sublimated polyester such as digital camo, always print the ELT Digital Black Underbase first to prevent dye migration.
- For an extra layer of bleed resistance and a bit of extra stretch, consider the ELT-S Black Underbase.

Always perform a pretest print and test cure conditions on the fabric to be printed to establish the best results. Stir inks vigorously before each use. Viscosity may need adjusting for best results. If there is ever a question about a print job, call us at 800-942-4447. We are always happy to help!

CALL TOLL FREE: 800-942-4447