

PRESSURETAC

Recommendations for printing and processing

PRESSURETAC provides the best solution for loop tags for logistics, goods labelling and luggage. The cold-seal adhesive only sticks to itself, therefore requires no release liner and can be removed without leaving any residue.

The PRESSURETAC range includes both tear-off paper grades as well as tear-resistant composite materials optionally printable in direct thermal printing or thermal transfer printing:

Direct thermal printing

- **7760 – TOP 80** Topcoat thermal paper with adhesive coating on the reverse
- **7748 – TOP 120 strong** Topcoat thermal paper with extra-strong adhesive coating on the reverse
- **7006 – BT 18/3** tear-resistant composite material of topcoat thermal paper / film core / paper with adhesive coating on the reverse
- **7019 – BT 28/3** tear-resistant composite material of removable, self-adhesive topcoat thermal paper / film core / paper with adhesive coating on the reverse

Thermal transfer printing

- **7753 – TT 80** satin-finished natural paper with adhesive coating on the reverse
- **7755 – TT 120 strong** satin-finished natural paper with extra-strong adhesive coating on the reverse
- **7759 – TT Classic 150 K** tear-resistant composite material of natural paper / film core / natural paper with adhesive on the reverse

General information

PRESSURETAC can be pre-printed on both sides via flexo or offset printing and can be perforated, cut, stamped and converted into small rolls as part of downstream processing. For printing variable data (barcodes), the converted small rolls can be processed using direct thermal printers or thermal transfer printers.

For processing PRESSURETAC, we basically recommend advance testing in all production processes followed by a corresponding field/application test.

Information on printing

Our PRESSURETAC grades can only be processed in web printing systems. The adhesive side must not remain exposed over a longer period, as otherwise the cold-glue adhesive will dry out and impair the adhesive force. Special care must be taken in dry room climates.

The ideal climate for converting is $20 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ and $50 \pm 10\%$ relative humidity.

Do not unpack the delivered rolls until shortly before processing and wrap remaining rolls directly with film again after printing. Store the converted small rolls airtight in cartons or film material and do not leave larger replenishment amounts exposed at the thermal printers.

Bond the individual strips into loop tags directly after thermal printing. According to our experience a good bonding is possible at temperatures between -5 and $+30^\circ\text{C}$. As soon as the adhesive sides stick well to each other, the loop tag is suitable for applications at temperatures between -30°C and $+40^\circ\text{C}$.

Ensure that the pressure-sensitive adhesive layer is not damaged during all processing steps and applications. Please ensure meticulously that the adhesive side is not drawn over a fixed edge or roller. The adhesive film must be visible smooth and undamaged. Even the slightest damage to the adhesive layer will impair the adhesive force of the loop tag. Disassemble unrequired stamping and perforation wheels in the equipping station.

FLEXO PRINTING

Suitable for printing with UV-reactive flexographic inks. Please use a heat-stable ink series, which is also suitable for subsequent printing with thermal printers. We advise against flexographic inks on the adhesive side, as these do not cure so effectively and impair the adhesive force.

When printing the Topcoat thermal paper, a partial under print with a primer (for example transparent white) or corona pre-treatment can improve the ink adhesion. A partial overcoat also prevents ink from becoming deposited on the contiguous adhesive side.

OFFSET PRINTING

Our previous experience is limited to waterless offset printing with UV-reactive offset printing inks. This allows both the paper side as well as the adhesive side to be printed in a satisfactory manner. Please use a heat-stable ink series, which is also suitable for subsequent printing with thermal printers.

When printing the Topcoat thermal paper, a partial under print with a primer (for example transparent white) or corona pre-treatment can improve the ink adhesion. A partial overcoat also prevents ink from becoming deposited on the contiguous adhesive side.

When redirecting the web over the turning circle, the rollers should be clean and the air flows adequate. If the machine is shut down, it must be ensured that the web tension is retained, as otherwise it may be the case that the adhesive sides located over one another in the turning circle stick to each other.

The chrome-alloyed printing cylinders must be clean. They must not be treated with media containing silicone, which could become deposited on the adhesive film.

Information on processing

In flexo printing the paper web is usually converted inline to small rolls. However, this can also be done offline via an converting machine. Here it must be ensured again that the adhesive side is not drawn over a fixed edge or roller. In many cases, it is helpful to wrap rough rollers with Teflon or silicone tape. The adhesive side must never be roughened and must be feel smooth and remain undamaged.

Please do not wind with too great a winding strength in wrapping and in winding to small webs. Pack the small webs immediately after equipping and make sure that they are stacked in a chimney shape (eye-to-the-sky) and do not come to be located on the running surface over a longer period.

Information on variable printing

THERMAL TRANSFER PRINTING

Thanks to the smooth paper surfaces, PRESSURETAC TT types are generally suitable for printing on thermal transfer printers with wax ribbons or combined wax/resin ribbons.

Owing to the large number of printer manufacturers and printer models with print heads in different resolutions (200/300/600 dpi) and various quality levels of ink ribbons, we recommend extensive testing in advance with the relevant components.

Siliconized transport and printing rollers prevent the adhesive layer from sticking between the printing intervals. If possible, activate "Backfeed before Printing" mode in the printer settings. The print head should be raised if the printer is out of service for longer overnight or at the weekend. Owing to the reduced contact surface, we recommend printing with near-edge printers.

Please clean the print head each time you change the ink ribbon.

DIRECT THERMAL PRINTING

PRESSURETAC Top and BT types are suitable for direct thermal printing. The Topcoat thermal papers have a good resistance and printability. Owing to the large number of printer manufacturers and printer models with print heads in different resolutions (200/300/600 dpi), we nevertheless recommend extensive tests in advance.

Siliconized transport and printing rollers prevent the adhesive layer from sticking between the printing intervals. If possible, activate "Backfeed before Printing" mode in the printer settings. The print head should be raised if the printer is out of service for longer overnight or at the weekend. Owing to the reduced contact surface, we recommend printing with near-edge printers.

We recommend cleaning the print head each time the roller is changed or at least once a day.

Information on material handling**STORAGE**

Storage should be in the original packaging, if possible. The ideal room climate for equipment and storage is $20 \pm 5^\circ\text{C}$ and $50 \pm 10\%$ relative humidity. Store the rolls unopened for least 24 hours after delivery for acclimatisation in the printer room and do not open the packaging until shortly before printing. You can find detailed information on shelf life under these conditions in our Technical Data Sheets.

DISPOSAL & RECYCLING

You can find detailed information on this in our safety instructions. Please ask our Customer Service with indication of the relevant grade. By email at: CustomerService.Dueren@sihl.com