

Application Hints

ClearSOL WetCling Film 125 glossy 3550

The ClearSOL WetCling Film is a transparent polyester film for solvent inks. The particularity of this media is the versatile coating system that combines the inkjet receptive layer and the composite for wet cling application. It can be used as normal clear film or when applied with (soapy) water as self-adhesive window-film. Even after months the film can be removed without leaving any residues.

Wet application instructions

The wet application of the ClearSOL WetCling Film is very easy, but has to be done correctly to avoid problems.



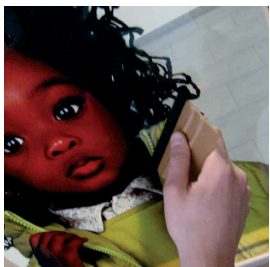
1. Properly clean the surface before application



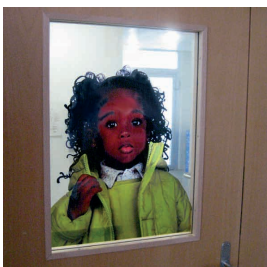
2. Moisten the window with (soapy) water



3. Place the film with the printed side to the window



4. Remove the water* between window and film with help of a squeegee



5. Done!

Application movie:



*Make sure there's no water left, otherwise parts of the coating will adhere to the window when removing the film.

Application surfaces:

The wet application was positively tested on glass, aluminium and Dibond-plates. The film can be applied to acrylic glass too, but some ink will remain on it after removing the film. The ink can easily be washed away with alcohol.

Printing with white ink:

By printing with white ink, the film can be printed for different ways of application. Whether the white layer is printed before or after the image, the print is visible from the front or the backside. There is one limitation for printing with white inks: A thin gap (2-3mm) between the edge of the media and the white print is needed. Otherwise the printout starts to peel off in areas with white inks.

Printing with double strike:

Depending on ink type and printer model, it's necessary to print with the option double strike/double ink to achieve highest colour brilliance for window application. Most inks don't dry quickly enough for roll to roll printing in this mode. Ventilation in front of the printer is highly recommended.

For questions and further information, please contact Martin Walther, maw@sihl.com



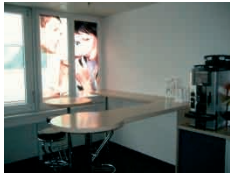

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Compatibility chart

As the different types of inks show different reactions to water, the wet application of the 3550 may cause problems with some of them. Depending on image, it's almost impossible to squeegee out the water completely when printed with an inappropriate ink. Seen from the backside in a pointed angle, the remaining water causes a disturbing effect. This problem mainly occurs in gradients to very light colours.

The 3550 can be used in three different ways. One possibility is the use as a clear film without applying it. If the film is stuck to a window, it might be an interior decoration which is only seen from the inside (e.g. in offices). The third possibility is to use it as a two-view window film which is seen from both sides of the glass. Below a list, which inks can be used for which type of application:

	Clear Film No wet application	Interior decoration View from inside 	Window-Film Two-view 
Roland EcoSolMax	☺☺☺	☺☺☺	☺☺☺
Roland EcoSolMax II	☺☺☺	☺☺☺	☺☺☺
Epson GS2	☺☺☺	☺☺☺	IPA*
Mimaki SS21	☺☺☺	☺*	IPA*
Mutoh Eco-Solvent Ultra	☺☺☺	☺☺*	IPA*
Seiko GX	☺☺☺	☺*	IPA*
HP L26500/L28500	☺☺☺	☺*	IPA*

*For several inks the two-view application isn't recommended when applying the film with water. We recommend to use a mixture of water and Isopropanol (IPA) with the ratio 4:1 (four parts water, one part IPA)

Printing with UVC-inks:

As the ink creates a certain structure on the printed side, a wet application is problematic. Therefore we recommend printing the film on the uncoated side. If printed on the backside, the coated side can be applied without problems. The ink needs a certain scratch resistance, tests with an Oryx SwissQprint didn't show any defects after application.

Printing with Latex-inks:

The ClearSOL WetCling Film can be printed with HP Latex inks of the second generation on the devices L26500 and L28500. To avoid mottling, it has to be printed in a high quality mode. Recommended settings are: 28pass, Heater 55°C, Curing 100°C, High ink level activated.

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