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PRODUCT INFORMATION

DIGITAL LIQUID LAMINATES

Water based clear protective coatings for inkjet vinyl media

UNIVERSAL DIGI CLEAR MACHINE LAMINATE

Description

Viponds Universal Digi Clear Machine Laminate is a water based clear that has been formulated to apply onto various digitally printed substrates with a machine laminator. It is a water white clear that will impart mar and scratch resistance, water resistance and some chemical resistance. It is non- yellowing and contains UV absorbers to improve the outdoor durability of the print. Although Universal Digi Clear is highly flexible and is particularly suitable for vinyl surfaces, it could also be used for canvas, paper and rigid surfaces.

Use

Universal Digi Clear is water based and therefore can only be used on substrates, inks or pigments that are *not* water sensitive. Note, some water based inks are water resistant when dry. Use Viponds Digi Lac solvent base for water sensitive inks and substrates.

Surface Preparation

The success of this product is determined by the level of adhesion to the substrate and ink. Generally no surface preparation is required, but if the surface is contaminated then the Universal Digi Clear may not wet the surface and cissing (does not form a continuous film or may form beads on the surface) may occur. A light wipe over with a damp cloth may help clean the surface. A second application of the Universal Digi Clear may solve this problem. It is also important that the ink is completely dry to prevent outgassing. Check with the ink manufacturer for drying specifications.

Application

This product has been especially formulated to apply through a machine liquid laminator. It has higher solids than the standard product to achieve maximum dry film thickness per pass and is formulated without retarder to improve drying times under heat banks. Application on a 64 micron bar will leave a dry film thickness of approx 18 microns. At this application thickness the product will be used at a rate of 16 square metres per litre per coat. This will offer good scratch and water resistance and some solvent resistance but two coats is required for any UV protection.

UV DIGI CLEAR MACHINE LAMINATE

Drying

Most laminating machines will have a drying mechanism to allow roll to roll operation. The drying time will depend on roller speed, film thickness and heater temperature and must be ascertained by experimentation.

If the machine does not have a drier then the following parameters are important.

Do not apply if the temperature is below 10 deg. C or in high humidity. Under normal drying conditions it will be touch dry within 20 minutes and can be recoated after 2 hours. Allow at least 6 hours for full cure. Allow overnight drying before rolling up prints.

Gloss Level

Universal Digi Clear dries to a gloss finish but the degree of gloss depends on the substrate and the amount of clear applied. A lower gloss finish can be obtained by addition of the Digi Clear Matting Agent. Addition of matting agent will slightly reduce the exterior durability of the clear.

Thinning and Cleaning

If thinning is required use clean water only. Addition of water will reduce the dried film thickness of the laminate. Clean equipment with water. Methylated spirits will soften Universal Digi Clear and assist clean up.

Availability

Ex Stock 4 litre and 10 litres

Testing

The digital print market is continually changing, with new substrates and inks being offered on a regular basis. As the methods and conditions of application and use of this product are beyond control of Vipond's Paints Pty. Ltd. it is recommended that the customer tests the product thoroughly for their own particular application.

The main test is to check adhesion – Universal Digi Clear forms a very tough film and if the adhesion is not satisfactory then the clear can delaminate from the substrate.

It is also important to determine the best method of application and film thickness required to achieve the desired properties for the end application.

Call customer service (03)93504188 for further information.

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