



FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION

New Sustainable UV-Inks for Xeikon's Panther Series to Reduce Printing Costs

Lier, Belgium, 12 September 2022 – Xeikon's Panther Technology, introduced in 2017, is based on UV inkjet and is the most cost-effective technology to address specific end-use markets, focused on labels across industries such as chemical, durable, cosmetic and premium beer labels. All these applications benefit from certain durability such as scratch, scuff, and rub resistance and a glossy tactile look and feel. UV inks tackle all these requirements.

Today, Xeikon announces its [PantherCure LED series](#), a new family of inks for use with Panther technology. The PantherCure LED inks come with new waveforms, software and optimized screening. These deliver a long list of benefits:

- Wider application range: LED curing generates less heat exposed to the substrate. More heat-sensitive substrates can be used with a water-based cool-down process.
- A broader color gamut enabled to address more brand colors.
- Increased image quality by introducing a new screening, waveform and ink, delivering consistent UV curing throughout the time
- More sustainable option - eliminates waste of mercury bulbs
- Improves the Overall Equipment Efficiency (OEE):
 - LED provides a 10 times longer lifetime and reduces maintenance. Lamp replacement every 2,000 hours for a mercury lamp versus 20,000 hours for LED
 - Eliminating downtime related to starts-and-stops due to warming-up and cooling-down of the mercury bulb
- LED ink curing requires less energy for the same speed thereby decreasing the overall energy consumption, having a direct impact on the total operating costs.
- The in-depth curing of LED light results in better ink-to-substrate adhesion
- Combining these new elements (ink, screening, waveforms, software) reduces ink consumption by 30% on average, depending on the content of the job.

"Today we already supply LED UV-inks to the Xeikon Jetrion base, therefore adding UV-LED inks was the next logical step for our Panther technology. Just last year we introduced a new generation of presses, the successors of the Xeikon PX2000 and Xeikon PX3000, thereby affirming our commitment to the label market and UV inkjet label business", explains Filip Weymans, Xeikon's VP for worldwide marketing. Weymans continues "Xeikon is renowned for having a determined sustainability program and the PantherCure UV LED series contributes to these goals.

The new inks are available on newly manufactured Xeikon PX3300 and Xeikon PX2200 as of October 2022. Starting in 2023, current customers of prior models of the Panther Press, Xeikon PX3000 and PX2000 will be eligible for field upgrades.

"The past couple of years have demonstrated that innovative companies with "future-proof" products are those that provide the best options to the customer for application choice and the highest OEE to safeguard their

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business goals”, continues Filip Weymans. “Field upgradeability of existing equipment with new innovations protects customers’ investments. This is a perfect example of how Xeikon is market-agile and customer-focused.”

Xeikon is the only supplier, for the label printing industry, offering multiple digital printing technologies, dry-toner and UV inkjet; all with different values and benefits allowing an application-specific choice for printers and converters.

ABOUT XEIKON

Xeikon, a division of Flint Group, is a long-standing leader and innovator in digital printing technology. Grounded in the principles of quality, flexibility and sustainability, Xeikon designs, develops and delivers web-fed digital colour presses for label and packaging applications, document printing, and commercial printing. These presses utilise different imaging processes, open workflow software and application-specific consumables.

In 2015, Xeikon joined Flint Group to create a new “Digital Printing Solutions” division for the leading global print consumables and solution provider to the packaging and print media industries. Flint Group develops and manufactures an extensive portfolio of printing consumables. These include a vast range of conventional and energy-curable inks and coatings, press room chemicals, as well as pigments and additives for use in inks and other colourant applications. The Flint Group is based in Luxembourg and employs around 7,900 people. Globally, the company is number 1 or 2 in all market segments it serves.

For more information about Xeikon, visit www.xeikon.com and for Flint Group, visit www.flintgrp.com or contact:

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