

PRESS INFORMATION

More safety and quality at printing on packaging with PolymerInk® extension of applications from prometho

Is it true or are there more and more reports of mineral oil and ink residue migrating into food products? prometho GmbH won't let things get so far and offers its PolymerInk® waterbased and mineral oil free inks for digital printing applications as an alternative to UV curing systems. Equipped with smart polymers and coated pigments the new digital printing inks are well prepared for the comparison with UV curing systems.

PolymerInk® is not only a product family, but also a philosophy: The use of mineral oil and UV photoinitiators is taboo, as are cmr substances. The trick is we use functional, printable polymers which are adjusted according to application and customers' requirements to achieve a perfect print result. "We don't offer a universal solution for every application, however we have succeeded in developing a basic formulation which is the base for final ink recipes. This leaves a lot of scope to customise the ink," says managing director and head of R&D Ruth Hoffmann about the extremely adaptable PolymerInk® ink system.

More food safety

Thanks to a mineral oil free and waterbased ink system without photoinitiators PolymerInk® digital printing inks fulfil elementary requirements for printing inks on food packaging, e. g. odourless / low odour or no hazard from migration.

Furthermore only those substances which are allowed in food production are used in our ink manufacturing. PolymerInk® digital printing inks are currently available for printing on non-food contact surface of food packaging. An ink series for the inner side printing of cartons or foils, in which a direct food contact cannot be excluded, is still in preparation.

No application without specific requirements

PolymerInk® is currently available in CMYK colours for the digital printing of packaging and print media. The inks will meet the technical requirements of a high-quality print result as well as sustainability and health safety. Thus, most PolymerInk® digital printing inks are deinkable and all of them are free of volatile organic substances (VOC). The creative potential of the developers from the Westerwald are not yet exhausted. Through individual adaptations, such as the "coating" of pigments, digital printing solutions can also be developed for critical or non-standard substrates, such as plastic or metal foils.

Current project: printing with natural colors

prometho sets out to "sustainably" invalidate the stubborn opinion that natural colours are not printable, their durability is not sufficient and their colour strength is much too weak. Initial tests show that natural materials are quite suitable for manufacturing printing inks. With clever working steps it is also possible to obtain dyes and pigment preparations with good material properties from natural materials. The first digital ink systems are currently being tested and will likely be marketable in the middle of 2017. In combination with natural binders and additives sustainable inks, which are nearly completely made of renewable raw materials will be available for digital printing.

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