

# APRIL 2013

## NEWSLETTER

**SUNAPPAREL**



Hawaii news— Our sister company “Sun Apparel, Inc.” will soon be stocking Inks and Supplies for the Screen Printing Industry in the greater Honolulu area. You can reach these good people at: (808) 847-5941



**Screen Printers Resource**  
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

[www.spresource.com](http://www.spresource.com)

**(888) 435-2468**

**Fullerton - Hayward - Aiea, HI**

### Get Smashed! By Mike Grey

#### What's happening soon?

	<b>Baseball is here</b>
<b>April 1</b>	<b>Beware!</b>
<b>April 22</b>	<b>Earth Day</b>
<b>May 5</b>	<b>Cinco de Mayo</b>
<b>July 18-20</b>	<b>NBM Printwear Long beach, CA</b>
<b>August 4-6</b>	<b>ISS Show Las Vegas, NV See us at booth #431</b>
<b>Check out our website SPResource.com</b>	

Relax. It's too early for cocktails and we all have work to do. What I mean by smashed is actually a loosely technical term for controlling fibrillation or what is sometimes referred to as the “Fuzzies”. The technique used is easy to do and has additional benefits depending on how it is set up.

A blank screen is used by coating a regular screen with emulsion. Use a 110-160 mesh screen so it will be strong and able to last a long time. After the emulsion dries, set the screen out in the sun for 15 minutes. Next tape the screen edges so no ink can escape on to the shirt. Lightly coat the print side/ bottom of the screen with silicone spray and then wipe it with a rag.

There are several uses for this technique and more than 1 screen may be needed. In the first print head of your press, place the screen in position and lock. Load a flood bar and squeegee in place and put in any ink

that flows smoothly. An extender base works well as it is not tacky. Set the pressure at medium. By using this screen in the first position it will smash down the fibers of the shirt before the first color is printed allowing for a smoother print and reducing the fibrillation (Fuzzies).

You can also use this screen after the under base is flashed. It will give a smooth/flat base print so that colors will look and feel better. Keep the squeegee pressure at medium so you don't push the ink through the shirt.

One last tip is to use the screen in the last print head. This will give the entire print a flat (almost) transfer look and feel. Of course you can do these techniques on a manual press as well.

Good luck and don't Smash and drive! 😊



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### Tech Tip: Exposed

How long does it take to burn? Depends on the sun that day and many other factors. An Emulsion is like human skin. It can get over or under exposed if preparations are not taken.

I am asked constantly how long does this Emulsion take to expose. Again, there are several factors involved. But guessing does not get you a proper stencil. It is necessary to use an “Exposure Calculator” to deter-

mine the correct times. Mesh count and color, coating procedure, light source, etc. are different from shop to shop.

By using this tool to record and use in your screen room, your screens will be at their best and there will be less issues at press.

Contact your SPR sales rep. or call our office for more details. (888)435-2468



Aloha! Want to say hello to the wonderful people I met while visiting print shops in Hawaii. It was a great experience and I met so many nice people. I look forward to coming back soon. Thanks, Mike