



Newsletter November 2013



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Quote of the Month

"Today's news is too true to be good"

What's Happening?

November 3

Daylight Savings Ends

November 7

Sun Apparel
Open House Hawaii

November 28

Thanksgiving

November 29

Turkey Recovery Day

What's your angle? By Mike Grey

There's a little known secret in our industry about mesh angles on a frame. For the most part screens are stretched at a 90 degree angle to the frame allowing for even-tensioning of each strand of the mesh. At least that's what I have always known. But like most things in life, there always seems to be an angle.

As I learned that in some cases where mesh is stretched at 90 degrees to the frame, it can cause the knuckles in the mesh to hold up ink and or actually distort the image. Now this is usually only noticed in very fine meshes and detail. It started to make sense in that if the knuckles are turned, you will get a more precise dot or line and the ink can flow better around the knuckle of the mesh.

As the squeegee passes each strand of mesh, it has the tendency to be a sort of speed bump as it were. Especially with the excess pressure that I see on most presses.

The angle that seems to work best is at 22 degrees to the frame. This is done by stretching the fabric at 90 degrees on the stretching unit and then laying the frame down at 22 degrees and then gluing to the fabric. A little tricky but not too difficult.

After studying this technique it makes sense that the mesh is more stable and that better control is gained with the ink deposit.

Of course in most cases especially in textile printing, you probably wouldn't notice it much but I would bet in the case of 4 color process and halftone index printing, you would notice and see a much cleaner print.

The down side to this technique is obviously a little wasted mesh. But if you can better control the print with a more detailed finished product, the cost factor probably wouldn't be.

The real trick is how to determine a consistent 22 degrees and even tension from screen to screen. Even trickier still is to use this technique on a roller frame in which I have not personally seen.

So with all the conventional training to get screens at a perfect 90 degrees, who would have "thunk" that there's a better way.

This technique appears to be a much used method in the circuit board printing industry but what the heck, Tee shirt printers will try anything.



Promo of the month

Get an additional 10% off of Murakami "Smart Mesh" including "S" mesh (thin thread) during the month of November. In comparison with the cheap mesh on the market today, Smart mesh is designed to be more durable and offers better tension stability and better stencil adhesion. The use of "S" mesh allows more open area to let more ink pass with less pressure of the squeegee. This is especially helpful when printing discharge and waterbase because it reduces the drying in the screen issue. To find out more about this and other Murakami products, contact your sales rep or call our office.



M&R introduces the "Kruzer" manual printing press. The new entry level press is available in 6 color/4 station with micro registration and side clamps as standard, all at an unbelievably affordable price.

Call us today for a quote. (888)435-2468

Class of 2014



Screen Printers Resource is excited to announce the return of classes and seminars to it's southern California location. After a long hiatus, we are under construction of our new class/showroom in our Fullerton office to offer product training as well as complete on-press instruction.

As before, we will offer seminars on new products and techniques with the assistance of our industry manufacturers reps to bring you the latest and greatest.

Stay tuned for our calendar of events and training dates.