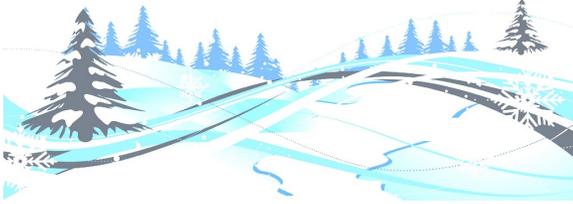


NEWSLETTER



*Happy New Year
January 2014*



Screen Printers Resource
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

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Baby, It's cold inside.....by Mike Grey

The New Year is here and with it the cold weather. I still can't believe it's 2014. At least now we all get a chance to wear that ugly sweater we got as a gift last month.

As we near the middle of winter, we still have a few months of cold temps to deal with. It's pretty simple really. Just put on more clothes and crank up the heater.

There are some issues that come up in the shop each year as things get cold that many of us don't think about. A few examples are: "The ink worked great until a couple of weeks ago. Now I can't get it out of the bucket". This is very common in that when it gets below 40 degrees, many liquids tend to thicken up. Plastisol is no exception. If you think about how we start our cars in the morning and usually let it warm up at least a few seconds if not longer. Why do we do this? Simply because the oil in the engine has settled and has thickened up.

To avoid engine failure, we run it at idle for a bit to get the oil to un-thicken and distributed through out the engine. The same needs to be done with plastisol by stirring and mixing it up a little so it starts to flow.

A suggestion would be to not keep the ink buckets on the floor as the concrete is sometimes colder than the air. At night when the shop is closed, the air inside can reach very cold temps. Sometimes close to freezing. This affects the ink in the buckets and makes it very difficult to print at first.

Just remember that "Ink doesn't Think". We have to make it do what we want it to do.

Similar problems can happen in the screen room with emulsion. You may want to store the bucket in a warmer room during the winter so it is above 40 degrees at all times. Coated screens can be affected by cold temps as well. If it becomes too cold, the dried coating can actually become brittle and crack. You may not notice until you get to press but it does happen.

Lastly, people are affected most by the cold. We become lethargic and move very slow. I used to hear the same old excuse from employees that didn't make it to work because of the cold. They would say they had car problems. I would say "Yeah right, the driver wouldn't start". 😊



What's Happening?
 January 2
 Only 347 days left until Christmas
 January 9-11
 NBM Printwear L.A.
 January 17-19
 ISS Show Long Beach
 February 2
 Superbowl XLVIII




Rutland's new ink mixing software is now available. Go to the link below to register and download the latest version which includes the recycle ink program to change already mixed ink in to other colors.

www.rutlandinc.com/downloaddmx.aspx




Quote of the Month
"I Triple Dog Dare You!"



M&R Launches Technical Services Video Channel

The new videos are to help printers get the most of their M&R equipment. This new feature can be found at: www.youtube.com/user/MRTechServices.

The video series is entitled "Screen Printing Equipment Setup". Some of the topics include: Floor Layout, Electrical Placement, Dryer Ducting, Connections, etc. Look for additional videos to be available throughout the year. Call SPR for a quote on M&R equipment or M&R parts at (888)435-2468.

Stop by and see us at the
Imprinted Sportswear Show
 Long Beach, CA
 January 17-19, 2014
 Booth #1653
www.issshows.com