PRINTING AND FINISHING GUIDELINES

opale®

What the well–dressed Office is wearing.
Prestigious line of letterheads and corporate communication papers.

For optimised print results, please refer to the following guidelines and advice:

Screen Ruling

A screen of 133 – 150 lpi should be used. Finer screens up to a maximum of 200 lpi can also give very good results with careful ink density control. For dark 4 colour images with high ink density, under colour removal may be required depending on the visuals. This will also help reduce drying time.

Printing Inks

Conventional, positive drying inks should be used with or without infra red drying assistance. UV inks may also be used. Avoid using overnight / stay fresh / duct stable inks (this is essential for the Premier Shimmer range where fully-oxidising inks are recommended). Always allow sufficient drying time. Use laser stable inks for subsequent laser printing. It is always advisable to consult your ink supplier about specific projects to ensure ink suitability.

Paper Handling

To help avoid marking and set-off when printing multiple colours, 35micron anti set off spray for boards and 20micron for paper weights are recommended. It may also be helpful to turn off the delivery stack joggers and restrict the delivery pile height particularly when printing boards. Always protect paper from environmental humidity and temperature changes by using stack covers or stretch wrap.

Litho Printing

For optimal results on the Fabric products, increase the blanket pressure or use a softer blanket to achieve consistent ink lay down.

Varnishing

To achieve a gloss varnish, it is essential to pre-seal the surface. Silk screen matt UV varnish should be used first, followed by subsequent applications of gloss UV varnish to achieve the desired effect. Ensure suitable inks are used prior to varnishing and that the inks are completely dry before varnish application. Not recommended for paper weights.

Blind Embossing

All finishes can be blind embossed. For subsequent laser printing, we recommend a shallow emboss to allow good feeding and to avoid damaging the emboss.

Laser Cutting

While laser cutting is easy, some scorching will be apparent around the cut area. Laser cut papers are more prone to misfeeds and jams within office printing technologies.

Hot Foil Blocking

All finishes in the range can be foil blocked. Foil blockers can recommend the best foil for the image and paper choice.

Folding and Creasing

To guarantee good folding results, prior creasing is recommended. Creases should be made parallel to the grain of the board. For best results, a creasing rule and matrix system should be used. Fold into the bead for prominent folds.

Screen Printing

All finishes can be successfully screen printed.

Non Impact Printing

All items in the Opale range up to and including 160g benefit from our Total Office Guarantee. This means that all papers are guaranteed for pre-printing and subsequent use on all desk-top mono and colour, laser and inkjet machines, as well as copiers and digital all-in-ones, subject to manufacturers' guidance on grammage and use. Opale is also guaranteed for use on high output machines.

Digital technologies

Opale Digital offers multiple technological performance on HP Indigo, Offset litho, Xerox Colour Systems (including iGen3 and the DocuColor series), Nexpress and colour laser & inkjet machines. Opale Digital gives outstanding results on all these technologies without the need for any other additional treatments or process, straight from the shelf.