



Screen Print Facilities Best and Worst Practices

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Content

- General Factory Conditions
- Ink Mixing / Store Area
- Screen / Mixing Tool Storage Area
- Curing
- Quality Control





General Factory Conditions

Best Practices

- Printing surfaces should be clean and smooth.
- No clutter or dirt under the tables, plus the tables are cleaned down after each print run.
- Stand / trolley is a good idea for storing production ink.



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General Factory Conditions

Worst Practices

- Ink stored on the floor can get contaminated or spilt
- Storing old/unused screens under printing benches is not allowed
- Squeegee type not properly labeled
- Uncontrolled storage areas contaminated with ink





General Factory Conditions



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Ink Mixing / Store Area

Best Practices

- Aluminum surfaces to help with cleaning
- Ink mixing scales are covered in a protective film and calibrated
- All dye containers should be cleaned, labeled and have lids on them to stop possible color contamination
- Tools and chemicals properly labeled
- MSDS, spill clean up equipment available



Ink Mixing / Store Area

Worst Practices

- Workspace dirty
- Ink containers have multiple colors of ink on them and no lids
- Weighing equipment out of calibration
- Tools and chemicals not labeled or labeled improperly





✓ Ink Room and Storage



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Screen / Mixing Tool Storage Area

Best Practices

- Screens properly cleaned, dried before put away for storage
- Screens stored off the floor
- Each mesh type should be marked clearly
- Tension should be checked to meet with the required specifications



Screen / Mixing Tool Storage Area

Worst Practices

- Screens stacked against each other
- Screens sitting on the floor
- Ink residue left on screens
- Do not have proper screen stretching equipment





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Curing

Best Practices

- Table top flash curing is recommended
- Maintain a good condition of curing belt



Curing

Worst Practices

- Flash curing with Hair Dryers or Heat Guns is not allowed



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Quality Control

Best Practices

- QC's should check color against approval, prior to production.
- In-Line QC's should check prints as often as possible
- Approved samples should be available at the end of the production line.
- Final 100% QC check should be carried out.





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Toolkit Reference

2011

AFIRM Supplier Toolkit



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- Appendix I—Screen Printing & Applications/Finishing Best Practices

Screen Print Facility Best & Worst Practices

This document provides examples and pictures of best and worst practices at screen print facilities:



[Screen Print Facility Best & Worst Practices.pptx](#)

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