



Jikelele – HTI's smart ink solution

Jikelele, a 100% soluble ink system designed for multiple substrates, with minimum downtime between print jobs, is the latest product from Hi-Tech Inks.

TODAY'S packaging industry is nothing if not dynamic. Numerous substrates are introduced with diverse properties, while high-speed, precision printing provides superior print quality with minimal downtime, allowing converters to manage several jobs over short time periods.

Packaging – such as snack food bags and coffee pouches – isn't only designed to please the eye with glossy photo-like finishes but also has to preserve contents by eliminating migration of moisture, oxygen and flavours. Similarly packaging for microwave cooking has to protect food during storage and offer good heat resistance. Beverage packaging has to withstand refrigeration temperatures, and bakery packaging requires grease resistance and fast release properties.

It becomes highly inconvenient and confusing for both ink maker and converter to maintain a large inventory of various resins and inks to meet these myriad demands. Moreover, because of incompatibilities between different resins and ink systems, a thorough cleaning process between jobs is required to prevent contamination of one ink system by another, ultimately resulting in significant downtime. After extensive research and product testing, HTI has formulated inks that can be used for multiple applications and has introduced Jikelele, a multipurpose universal liquid ink system that provides quality inks that adhere to a wide variety of substrates, provide good laminating bonds on those substrates and still print and clean up well on the press.

'Jikelele ink simplifies switchovers and reduces expenses and downtime,' states Ricky Alli, Hi-Tech Inks director. 'It provides converters with a total solution and is 100% alcohol soluble. We've already had much success in retortable packaging, shrink and pasteurisation as well as standard lamination applications,' he continues. 'Jikelele also has properties exceeding alternative products currently available in the global market place and provides universal applicability for flexo and gravure printing for multi-film systems. Data sheets are available on request and customers can contact our offices or email any one of our sales offices nationwide,' concludes Ricky.