

Novasens® BCS PRIME

The extremely low-migration and low-odour series

Base colour ink series for sheetfed offset

Product features

- Novasens® BCS PRIME is a highly pigmented, extremely low-migration and low-odour base colour ink series which has been developed specially for sensitive food and semi-luxury food applications, where there is no direct contact between the printed image and the contents of the package.
- Novasens® BCS PRIME consists on 10 base colour inks plus black and transparent white and is supplemented by 5 inks with particularly high fastness properties. In addition, two special, non-mono-pigmented, colour shades with high fastness properties round off the series.
All base colour inks are resistant to water-based coating. The series is optimally suited for mixing colour shades of the PANTONE® fan. Besides that it can also be used to mix any other colour shade with specific fastness properties, as is often required in packaging printing. The base colour inks are formulated with optimised colour strength.
- The series is excellently suited both for the latest generation printing presses and machines of older design and construction.
- Further benefits of Novasens® BCS PRIME are the excellent colour intensity, high brilliance and very good printability.
- Novasens® BCS PRIME is particularly suited for the production of packaging that complies with the requirements of the EU-regulation 1935/2004 and 2023/2006 as well as with the Swiss Ordinance 817.023.21. This product has been formulated as a low migration product, in order to support the no migration requirements for US FDA. Additionally, the series meets the requirements of the EuPIA Guideline "Printing Inks applied to the non-food contact surface of food packaging materials and articles". Mineral oil is not used as an intentional formulation component of this series. The release of aldehydes on neutral substrates is below the detection limit.

Advantages of Novasens® BCS PRIME

- Extremely low-migration and low-odour.
- The base colour ink series complies with requirements for printing inks for food packaging.
- Low swelling.
- Highly pigmented.
- High brilliance.
- Excellent colour intensity.

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		Fastness properties/opaqueeness							Printing properties							
		Opaqueeness	Light 100 %	Light 10 %	Ethanol	Solvent mixture	Alkali	Caustic soda solution	Gloss	Setting	Oxidative drying	Rub resistance	Rapid further processing	Suitability for gloss coated papers/board	Suitability for uncoated papers/board	Suitability for matt coated papers/board
Novasens® BCS PRIME	article code								4	3	1	2	3	6	4	6
Yellow	VZ94-100*	t	5	3	+	+	+	+	1 = Characteristic weakly expressed 7 = Characteristic strongly expressed							
Resistant Yellow	VZ94-153*	t	6-7	5-6	+	-	+	+	The assessment of the colour properties was made under standardised printing conditions. In individual cases, under special conditions, as in printing with very high ink densities, the classification of certain properties may be different. Light fastness properties according to ISO 12040: from 1 (low) to 8 (high) Fastness properties according to ISO 2836: + = Good Resistance +/- = Partly Resistant - = Not Resistant Opaqueeness: o = opaque so = slightly opaque t = transparent							
Orange 021	VZ94-200*	t	5	3	+	+	+	+								
Red 032	VZ94-302*	so	5	3	+	-	+	+								
Rubine Red	VZ94-301*	t	5	3	+	+	-	-								
Alkali Rst. Rubine Red	VZ94-346*	t	5	4	+	+	+	+								
Rst. Rhodamine Red	VZ94-369*	t	7	5-6	+	+	+	+								
Resistant Violet	VZ94-450*	t	7	6	+	+	+	+								
Process Blue	VZ94-500*	t	8	6-7	+	+	+	+								
Green	VZ94-600*	t	8	6-7	+	+	+	+								
Black	VZ94-960*	o	8	8	+	+	+	+								
Transparent White	VZ94-000*	t														

Highest fastness properties	article code							
R/S Yellow	VZ94-183*	t	6-7	5	+	+	+	+
Perm. R/S Yellow	VZ94-189*	t	7	5-6	+	+	-	-
T. Rst. G/S Yellow	VZ94-190*	so	7	6	+	+	+	-
Y/S Red	VZ94-355*	t	7	6	+	+	+	+
Resistant Rubine Red	VZ94-366*	t	7	6	+	+	+	-

Highest fastness properties For single print Non-mono-pigmented	article code							
Rst. Reflex Blue	VZ94-508*	t	7	6	+	+	+	+
Strong Rst. Reflex Blue	VZ94-509*	t	7	6	+	+	+	+

*Depending on the production site

You are welcome to contact us for further information.

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Novasens® BCS PRIME

Substrates

Ideally suited for gloss coated, matt coated and uncoated papers and board in combination with inline water-based coating. We recommend testing the suitability of the substrate for printing food packaging.

Drying properties

Drying by absorption.

As an extremely low-odour and low-migration ink, Novasens® BCS PRIME dries only by absorption. For this reason an inline water based coating is always necessary (Novaset® 4211/40 gloss coating or Novaset® 4400/40 matt coating). The nip volume of the anilox roller should not be less than 13 cm³.

Hints for mixing spot colours

Due to the high colour strength, the mono-pigmentation and specific fastness properties, the base colour inks of Novasens® BCS PRIME are ideally suited for easy formulation and mixing of spot colours, that are resistant to water-based coating. For mixing spot colours with a high proportion of transparent white or with special properties such as high light fastness or for special applications such as UV-varnishing, 5 base colours with specific fastness properties are available. The whole range of PANTONE® colour shades can be achieved with typical wet offset printing film weights.

The Novasens® BCS PRIME is completed by 2 highly concentrated blue tones. These colours are designed for single printing and enable an intensive colour effect with low ink layer thicknesses. They are not recommended for mixing special colours.

Special notes

Novasens® BCS PRIME is particularly suited for the production of packaging that complies with the requirements of the EU-regulation 1935/2004 and 2023/2006. This product has been formulated as a low migration product, in order to support the no migration requirements for US FDA. Additionally the series meets the requirements of the EuPIA Guideline „Printing Inks applied to the non-food contact surface of food packaging materials and articles“ and the „Guidance Note on Packaging Inks“ published by Nestlé.

We recommend Varn® SFF 9275 fountain solution for alcohol reduced or alcohol free printing.

If the printing press was previously running with conventional inks, it should be thoroughly cleaned and all ink residues have to be removed before printing with low-migration inks. For this purpose, only washes suitable for low-migration printing should be used, taking into account the manufacturers` recommendations for use. Flint Group recommends Varn® Non-VOC Wash or Varn® V60 Plus for this purpose. Following the wash cycle, thorough rinsing with clean water is essential.

Heating of printed packaging in an oven has to be carefully considered due to the potential appearance of temperature peaks. In contrast, microwave heating of packaging without acceptor laminate is non-critical. Generally the heating of packaging to temperatures exceeding 200 °C must be avoided.

Due to the drying characteristics of these inks the suitability for hot foil stamping should be tested before starting a print run.

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Additives

Never add driers to the inks or fountain solution. If there is a need for tack reduction, for example when printing on sensitive substrates, use only special Novasens PRIME Reducer or Novasens PRIME Reduxpaste.

Further products

Novasens® P 670 PRIME
Novasens® Metallic PRIME
Novasens® PRIME mixed spot colours

Migration test

A migration test according to DIN EN 14338 was made under worst case conditions (320% ink coverage) on Invercote 180 g/m². The test revealed that the migration of substances fell below the 60ppm limit by a factor of more than 10. (Based on the EU convention whereupon 6 dm² packaging surface correlates with 1 kg food). A copy of this report is available upon request.

Further information

For further information please refer to our Technical Reviews regarding food packaging printing, such as "Sheetfed inks for food packaging printing" or "Mixing of low-migration inks".

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