

The logo for xinggraphics, featuring a red triangle to the left of the word "xinggraphics" in a blue sans-serif font. The logo is positioned on a white, semi-transparent rectangular background that is slightly tilted.

xinggraphics™

Platesetter Pre-setting Instruction

For *Fitaco*

June 2009

Product Specifications

<i>FIT^{eCO}</i>	
Spectral Sensitivity	830nm
Type	Negative Thermal CTP plate
Exposure energy	200~250 mj/cm ²
Resolution	1~99% @200lpi
Maximum coil width	1480 mm
Shelf life	18 months



Handling

Unopened plates should be carried vertically to avoid being bending or damaged. See fig i.e.

Note when loading full packets of plates into the platesetter cassette two people may be needed to avoid damage or kinks

Opening of the Plate Package

Xingraphics FIT eCO Plate has a package with the external use of four white braided belts, the internal we use the wood fixed around to facilitate the transport and storage.

Flat on the ground, and then open the package as shown blow:



When being handling the plates must be carried carefully to avoid bending or kinking which may affect the imaging.

The FIT eCO Plate surface are sensitive to oil, chemistry and scratching, please be very care to avoid touching the plate surface directly with your hand prior to imaging.



Single plate should be carried with gloves.



Single plate carried with any kind of bend may affect the together with the interleaving.

Loading

Avoid any damage to the plate edges, and excessive bends during the pre imaging handling process. Also, be careful with the surface of plate, do not let finger print on it. In the event this occurs then the end user increases the risk of an increase in platesetter errors during the loading, registration and imaging procedure.



When loading plates, ensure the product is well supported to avoid damage.

Platesetter Reference Setting

Xingraphics FIT eCO can be used on all 830nm laser platesetters, the settings shown for the FIT eCO plates are for guidelines only.



Brand	Type	Power	Drum speed
Creo	Trendsetter 800 S	16W	158rpm
Creo	Trendsetter VLF	24W	121rpm
Creo	Magnus 800S	11W	100rpm
Screen	PT-R 8600S	95%	400rpm
Screen	PT-R 4100	100%	400rpm
Screen	PT-R 4300	100%	400rpm
Heidelberg	Topsetter 102	100%	400rpm

How to set FIT eCO on Screen PTRs?

Focus setting:

- Set platesetter at 100% power and half drum speed
- Set a focus test with 20 to 30 strips.
- Initial Value = Previous setting – 100
- Inc. Value = 10
- Check the color change of the strip and find the correct focus in the middle

Energy setting:

- Set platesetter with correct focus value
- Set a energy test with 20 to 30 strips
- Set drum speed at half speed-100, half speed, and half speed+100,
- Set power Initial value = 70%, Inc. value =5%
- Check the color change of the strip and find the correct focus in the middle

After being exposed, the coating color turns to brown yellow, which forms a sharp contrast to the color before exposure. Expose the plates with proper laser power. Underexposure may result in scanning line on press. After exposure, interleaving paper is still recommended to keep between the plates to avoid contamination on coating surface until plates being loaded on press. Dots cannot be measured directly on exposed plates. The press results are good reference for dot calibration. Or the similar dot calibration curve as other CTP plates which require developing step can be applied.

Printing

Do not touch the press areas with dirty hands when loading the plates. Make sure press accessories do not contact coating surface during punching or loading process.

Especially on an automatic loading press, loading wheels on contact with coating surface may cause dirt during press.

Generally, Fit eCO requires 50% more water than conventional PS plate. The following steps are recommended to start press.

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- a) Clean all the rubber blankets carefully.

 - b) Load exposed plates on press. Don't contaminate the surface during the loading.

 - c) Set water volume to a high level, 70% for instance. Keep inking rollers' pressure off while dampening rollers' pressure is on. Run for 30 seconds so that the plate can be sufficiently soaked(d) Inking rollers on.

 - d) Reduce water volume to a proper value.

 - e) Clean the plates gently with weak acid solution, such as diluted fountain solution. Other cleaning chemicals that can remove ink, such as plate cleaner, gasoline, etc., are not applicable to Fit eCO.
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Generally, Fit eCO aims to short-run commercial printing. It cannot be reused once it is unloaded from the press.

Storage

It is recommended to store Fit eCO in cool dry place at 5°C – 35°C, with humidity between 30 – 70%.

Q&A:

Q: Is FIT eCO a DOP (Develop on Press) plate like FUJI Pro-T and Kodak Thermal Direct?

A: No. FIT eCO is a real processless technology and no need develop after exposing.

Q: Do we need any intermediate procedures for FIT eCO before applied to press?

A: No. There isn't any intermediate procedure before the printing.

Q: Do we need install any equipment for gumming or washing after exposing FIT eCO?

A: No.

Q: Is there any exposal or waste chemistry should be treated before dumping?

A: No. FIT eCO will not cause any solid or liquid chemical waste during the plate making.

Q: Is FIT eCO a mature commercial product?

A: No. FIT eCO now is a beta version product still.

Q: Can we handle FIT eCO as other aluminum substrate offset plate?

A: No. We need carefully handling with FIT eCO to avoid scratching on the surface.

Q: Can we gum the exposed FIT eCO for long period storage before applying to the press?

A: We don't need gum the exposed FIT eCO for storage before printing, but we have to store the exposed FIT eCO within a cold, dark and dry environment.

Q: Can we expose FIT eCO with same speed as normal thermal plates?

A: No. The exposing energy of FIT eCO is almost doubled compare with normal thermal plates. Xingraphics is undergoing the development of 2nd generation of FIT eCO with lower energy requirement.
