

# INKJET PAPER



\* *RC-Based* means the Paper Base which consists of Paper Pulp has a Resin coating on it. This kind of coating is applied to the uncoated paper base in the coating process. It is applied to the uncoated paper pulp to form a special foundation before the next coatings are applied. It acts like a shield between the uncoated paper base and the top coatings (for example the microporous coating) This is the same Resin coated base which was used for silver-halide photographic paper.

### Porous Paper (Particle type, Microporous, Nanoporous)



This term is used to explain a type of coating which is applied to a coated photo inkjet paper. The word porous stands for the tiny pores or openings in the coating which are still big enough, however, to allow the ink from your inkjet paper to be absorbed into them. Principle of drying agent of silica gel, moisture is absorbed into fine spaces of the filter. Paper base is the same as the traditional RC Paper

Porous paper can be used with dye and pigment-based inks but is the preferred paper to use with pigment-based inks, which are less affected by atmospheric contaminants than dye-based inks. In addition, pigment-based inks generally have much better light fastness characteristics and ozone resistance on porous papers than dye-based inks.

The FRUBO Inkjet Papers Glossy Microporous, Silky Microporous, Satin Microporous and Semi-Matt Microporous are all microporous Media.

#### **Benefits:**

- Instant dry
- High speed printing modes can be used
- Heavy weight  $\rightarrow$  feel of real photograph
- If displayed in frame or laminated, the prints will last as long as polymer
- coated paper
- High quality images
- Water-resistant

#### Cons:

- Gas fading due to airborne pollutants  $\rightarrow$  major factor is the stability of ink used (discoloration of surface)
- When combined with dye-based inks, these papers might damage from ozone

- Difficult to produce
- Easily damaged

#### Points of Identification:

- Surface feel slightly "sticky" to the touch
- If you gently bend the corner you can hear a slight "cracking"
- Surface tends to "squeak" when you touch it! (It squeaks because the paper is so absorbent, it absorbs the tiny traces of oil and moisture on your finger that would otherwise act as a lubricant on a smooth surface)
- Package says:"particle technology", "micro-technology", "no drying time", "quick drying"



Polymer-Coated Paper (Polymer type/Swelling type)

Principle of a paper diaper, ink is absorbed by the swell of filter.

These papers are generally suitable only for dye-based inks. The use of a swellable paper produces poor image quality with pigment-based ink because the pigments are not totally absorbed into the swellable ink absorbing layer. This type of ink and media mismatch produces prints that not only suffer in image quality, but that rarely dry properly.

#### **Benefits:**

- Image will last as long as traditional colour prints due to good light stability
- Same Resin Coated (RC) base used for traditional photographs
- Real photographic feel
- Tear-resistant, kink-resistant
- Glossy appearance for a long time due to the absorption into polymer layer and not paper base like cast coated papers
- Abrasion-resistant due to transparent polymer layer
- Very good colour reproduction
- Low production cost $\rightarrow$  Low-end product
- Easy to produce

#### Cons:

- Ink is absorbed slowly  $\rightarrow$  Long drying time  $\rightarrow$  slow printing mode
- Top layer is not entirely water-resistant →Needs laminating (But the water resistance varies from brand to brand)

#### Points of Identification:

- When you touch the surface you may feel some stickiness
- Thick photo paper feel. Weight of paper is good indicator i.e. over 230gsm
- If you gently bend the corner of the paper it won't leave a mark

## CAST-COATED PAPER



This type of coating is a unique process when compared to all the other processes of coating papers. After receiving a very precisely amount of coating, the paper with the coating is wrapped against a very large polished chrome drum. The drum is very warm and quickly dries the coating. This mirror image from the drum is then reflective on the surface of the paper giving is a very high shiny look! Works with both, dye and pigment inks.

The FRUBO Inkjet Papers Glossy  $248\mu$  and Textured Type N  $240\mu$  are cast-coated Media.

#### **Benefits:**

- The ink will dry quickly as the ink is absorbed to the paper base
- Can be used on a wide range of printers
- Even large particles will be absorbed into the paper

#### Cons:

- Poor light stability, they fade in light
- No real photography-feel
- Paper will ripple if a lot of ink is used i.e. for black area
- Less glossy print due to quick absorption of ink into the paper pulp
- Not tear-resistant and prone to kinks
- Feel light-weight

#### How to identify this paper type?

- Looks and feels like a light-weight postcard
- Not scratch-resistant, you can scratch the surface with a fingernail
- Drop of water will deform it when dry, just like a plain paper

Source:

- 1) Inkjet paper, http://mitsubishiimaging.com/support/inkjet/inkjet%20paper.asp, last access date : 21.12.2011
- 2) Ilford Galerie Professional Photo Inkjet Range, http://www.ilford.com/en/pdf/prod/galerie/ PRINTING\_WITH\_ GALERIE\_MEDIA.pdf, last access date: 21.12.2011
- 3) Inkjets-Printing Paper, http://www.shortcourses.com/display/display2-6.html, last access date: 21.12.2011