

Technical Information



Replaces technical information dated 08/01/98

Update: 07/30/01

POLYCOL AQUA

1. DESCRIPTION:

POLYCOL AQUA is a presensitized SBQ-photopolymer emulsion for textile printing with plastisol inks. Its high solids content and fast exposure time enables quick screen making. POLYCOL AQUA has a wide exposure latitude, making it suitable for fine detail printing.

2. SENSITIZING:

Pre-sensitized -- ready to use.

3. MESH PREPARATION

To achieve a good stencil, the mesh must be degreased with a commercial degreaser such as KIWO DEGREASER 1:20 or PREGAN A9 and must be free of dirt, dust, ink residues and ghost images. Rinse the screen thoroughly using low water pressure to remove any degreaser remaining on the screen. A foaming degreaser such as KIWO DEGREASER 1:20 or PREGAN A9 helps to determine proper and complete rinsing. See KIWO DEGREASER 1:20 or PREGAN A9 technical information sheets for details.

4. COATING PROCEDURE

POLYCOL AQUA has excellent coating properties on mesh counts of 40-305 threads per inch (16-120 threads per cm). For best printing results, the following coating techniques are recommended using a round edge coating trough:

40-86 tpi (16-34 tpcm):	1-1 wet-on-wet
110-156 tpi (40-60 tpcm):	2-2 wet-on-wet
195-305 tpi (77-120 tpcm):	2-2 wet-on-wet

Always start with 1 or 2 coats on the substrate side of the screen to fill the mesh openings; then finish with wet-on-wet coats on the squeegee side to build up the emulsion coating to the desired thickness. The correct coating technique for your process *must be determined through coating tests*.

Contact KIWO for more specific coating techniques.

5. DRYING OF THE COATED SCREEN

Dry the screen in complete darkness, or under safelight conditions, with the screen in horizontal position with the substrate side down. Temperature, relative humidity and airflow affect the drying time. The screen must be dried thoroughly before exposing to achieve highest resistance to ink and ink cleaners. A temperature of 86°-104°F (30°-40°C) at a relative humidity of 30% -50% and moderate airflow are optimum conditions. Drying at room temperature and in uncontrolled conditions may lead to inconsistent results and varying screen resistance.

6. EXPOSURE

Expose with ultra-violet light at a wavelength 320 – 380 nm. A metal halide lamp provides the best results. Due to the many variables that determine the actual exposure time, accurate exposure times cannot be given. The following examples are offered as a guide only:

Lamp: 5000 Watt metal halide at 40" (1m) distance.

156/62 tpi (60/62 tpcm) yellow mesh, coating technique 2-2.

Exposure time: approximately
blue: 60 seconds
red: 60 seconds

305/34 tpi (120/34 tpcm) yellow mesh, coating technique 2-2.

Exposure time: approximately
blue: 25 seconds
red: 25 seconds

The correct exposure time for your equipment and mesh selection *must be determined through exposure tests* using a step exposure or and exposure calculator such as the KIWO STEP WEDGE EXPOSURE film or the KIWO EXPOSURE CALCULATOR films.

Under-exposed screens feel slimy on the squeegee side during developing. At correct exposure time, the screen is not slimy. Overexposure leads to loss of detail. Correctly exposed screens will withstand high tap water pressure during washout.

Contact KIWO if you have further questions regarding exposure time.

7. DEVELOPING / WASHOUT

Develop the screen using full tap water and a medium spray pattern. Adjust the water temperature to lukewarm or slightly colder. Rinse thoroughly from both sides of the screen. Vacuum off any excess water or blot it off with newsprint paper. This will avoid runs or scum from under-exposure in the open areas.

8. POST-EXPOSURE

Post-exposing the screen after developing and drying can be very effective. Post exposure times should be 1-2 times the original exposure time.

9. POST-HARDENING (CHEMICALLY)

The emulsion can be chemically post-hardened using HARDENER AWR or HARDENER HP to improve water resistance. HARDENER HP improves the resistance, but the emulsion remains reclaimable. HARDENER AWR results in a permanent stencil with outstanding resistance. See HARDENER AWR or HARDENER HP Technical Information Sheets for details.

This data sheet is for your information, a legally binding guarantee of the product's suitability for a peculiar application cannot be derived. No responsibilities can be undertaken for occurring damages. Our products are subject to a continuous production and quality control and leave our factory in perfect condition.



Regional Phone Numbers:
North East: 1-800-257-8226
South East: 1-800-537-4606
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Midwest: 1-800-736-7636
West: 1-800-252-7767
Mexico: 011-525-55-576-6667
www.sourceoneonline.com

10. BLOCKOUT / TOUCH-UP

When printing with solvent based inks, retouching, blocking out can be done with KIWO TOUCH-UP and KIWO BLOCKOUT. See KIWO TOUCH-UP and KIWO BLOCKOUT Technical Information Sheets for details.

11. DECOATING

POLYCOL AQUA can be decoated with emulsion removers such as KIWO STENCIL REMOVER. Before decoating, ensure the screen is completely cleaned of ink or ink cleaning chemical residues. If water beads up on the stencil, degrease the screen prior to decoating. See the KIWO STENCIL REMOVER Technical Information Sheet for details. If the screen was chemically hardened with HARDENER AWR, reclaiming is no longer possible.

12. HAZE REMOVING

When under-exposed, the emulsion can cause emulsion haze after reclaiming. To remove haze, use KIWO HAZE REMOVER or PREGAN PASTE. Use the haze removing products with the KIWO INK WASH or KIWO ULTIMATE INK WASH. These products are also very effective at removing ink haze. See separate Technical Information Sheets for these additional products for more details.

13. PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Viscosity:	approx.: 9,500 mPas
Solids Content:	approx.: 39%
Color:	blue or red
Storage:	1 year at 68°F/20°C
Potlife:	1 year at 68°F/20°C
Precoated screens:	8 weeks in complete darkness at 68°F/20°C
Freezing:	protect against freezing
VOC:	none
TLV:	n/a
HMIS rating:	Health – 1 Flammability – 0 Reactivity – 0

14. PACKAGING

1 US Quart, 1 US Gallon, 5 US Gallons, 32 US Gallon Drum.

15. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

For additional product information, please visit our web site at www.kiwo.com. All products mentioned in this technical data sheet are available through KIWO Inc. and its distributor network. For further information contact your KIWO distributor or KIWO direct.

Thank you for choosing **KIWO**.