Embroidery NEWSLETTER

Barudan celebrated 60 years in the embroidery machine business with the unveiling of new models at TEXPROCESS - Germany

Welcome To Our 'New Format' Newsletter

For embroidery related articles start here and read pages 1 to 6
For vinyl, printing & heat pressing - Pages 7 to 12

Touch Screens & Flashing Coloured LED Lights Might Look Fancy.....But Do They Improve Productivity Or Profit?

Modern styling and high tech are a bonus, but they won't help to pay the bills if you are in a manufacturing business like embroidery.

When we ask you what you like best about the new Barudan models, the most common answer is.

"They just run so well".

High productivity can only happen with low thread breakage and minimum down-time

So machine speed is important, but it's not only about speed. When Barudan designs a new model or releases a free firm-ware update, they always consider ways in which they can make the machine more user friendly and more productive. **For example:**

A USB can hold up to 5,000 designs arranged in up to 50 folders. That's very convenient, but you know scrolling through 50 folders and up to 100 designs per folder takes time..... valuable production time.

When your machines stop you're losing money

Here are three ways that the latest models help to reduce down-time.

1. USB text search - Just type the first few characters of the design name.

The machine controller software will search the whole USB memory and will display a list of only the designs on the USB with names that start with those characters.

Choose the design you need and will load in seconds

2. Bar Code search - Plug a regular bar-code reader into one of the USB ports then scan the bar-code on the Wilcom design sheet.

The exact design will be found from the USB and loaded into the machine memory in the blink of an eye.

Continued on Page 2.

(Continued from Page 1)

What if my designs get lost ..... or stolen and let's not forget the possibility of using the wrong version of a design by mistake.

This is a serious concern for most embroidery business owners

Now the chances are that you don't own the copyright to the artwork for the logos that you embroider but you should own the rights to the digitised embroidery designs created from the artwork.

The embroidery design file should be your property **and that's important** because the quality of your designs might just be the reason why your customers stay loyal and are prepared to pay your prices for a quality job.

Barudan LEM-server software provides that design security. It works like this:

The machines are connected to your computer network using regular CAT5 LAN cables. When you need any design you just scan the bar-code on the design instruction sheet.

LEM-server will search the design folders on your designated computer and will then download that exact design into the machine memory.

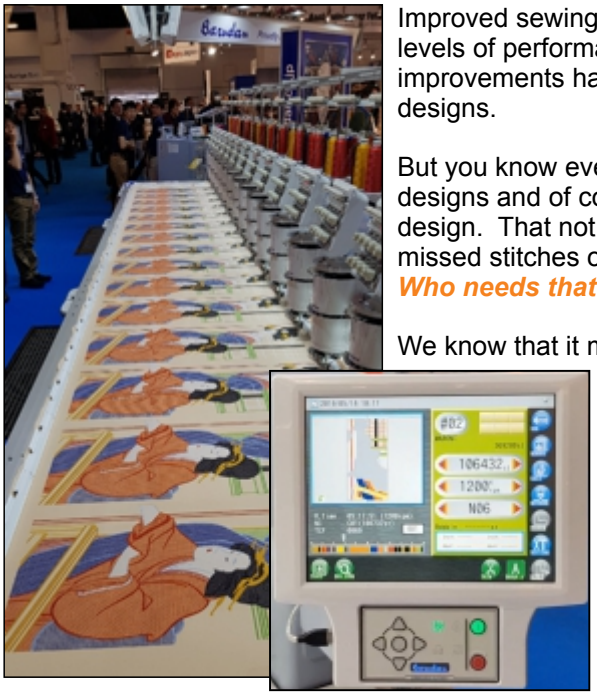
Original designs are kept safe and secure in a 'read-only' folder on your computer, either in the building or even off-site. Only authorised staff can make changes to your original designs.

For 100% design security - You can also set your Barudan so that designs in memory can't be saved or copied to a USB

How Do Crazy Mountain Bikers Find Their Way Through A Jungle?
They Follow The Psycho Path

Don't Let Bobbin Run-outs Hurt Productivity

When you run high stitch count designs, machine speed plays a critical part in both productivity and profit. The unique BEKS 9 needle, rotary head machine ran for 4 days, at 1,200 stitches per minutes on this huge 369,000+ stitch design.



Improved sewing mechanisms, control software and high performance threads have resulted in levels of performance that even 10 years ago could only have been imagined. These improvements have benefited everyone, but especially those who run high stitch-count designs.

But you know even with low thread breakage, you can't avoid Bobbin run-outs in very large designs and of course unless you are very disciplined, they always happen part way through a design. That not only stops production but can result in damaged embroideries because of missed stitches or bobbin threads showing on the top.
Who needs that on an expensive jacket?

We know that it makes good sense to change all the bobbins at the same time because when you do that you avoid repeated stops for bobbin changes during that run.

Barudan machines have a unique feature designed to stop the machine after it has completed a pre-determined number of stitches. It then displays an 'on-screen' message - **CHANGE BOBBINS**!

The first important thing you should do is to make sure that all of the bobbins are adjusted to have the same tension. This is really important and the quickest & most accurate way to do that is with a **bobbin tension gauge**.

For bobbin tension gauge - contact Hayely
hayleys@embroiderysource.com.au
or order directly from our web site

Having adjusted all the bobbin tensions you then need to make sure that the top tensions are also adjusted well. You see if all the bobbin tensions are the same and all needle thread tensions are balanced then the bobbins will all be almost empty at around the same time. It will never be 100% accurate but the very small amount of thread left on some bobbins is not even worth a second of your time as compared to the potential for lost production and profit.

Now, run the machine until the first bobbin runs out. Check how many stitches have been completed (let's just say it's 35,000). Now set the bobbin stop counter to 34,000. Make the machine trim on all heads - Change all of the bobbins - back-stitch 4 or 5 stitches and then re-start the machine. The machine will then stop every 34,000 stitches.

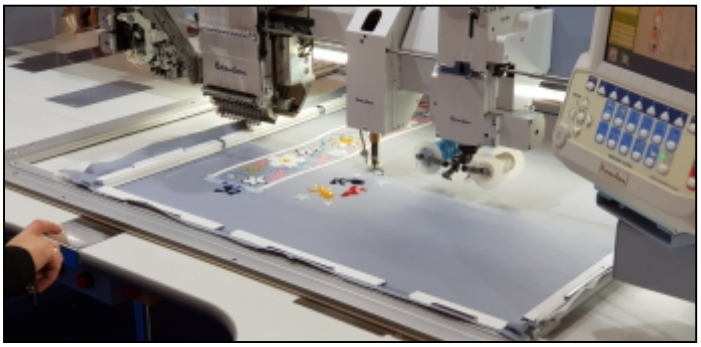
How about changing all of the bobbins at a colour change? The machine has already stopped and trimmed the threads.

There won't be any missed stitches - No lumpy overlaps - No bobbin thread pull-ups

Quadruple Combination Decoration

Sounds like a fancy ice-cream but in fact combination refers to a technique developed by Barudan after they designed and built the first automatic Cornelly, Chenille embroidery machines.

Chenille is the decoration that is similar in appearance to the loops on the surface of a towel. It is used commonly on American college style jackets.
Cornelly machines can also be used to produce chain stitch and cording types of decoration too.



It wasn't very long before customers began to ask - How can we combine Chenille or Cording or sequins with traditional embroidery but without having to re-hoop the fabric or move hoops from one machine to another?

The Barudan quadruple combination machine was the result combining regular embroidery, Chenille, cording/taping and sequins..... all produced on just one machine and without having to re-hoop the fabric or change hoops

Direct To Pocket Embroidery .....On A Garment

The new pocket hoop on Barudan's BEKT CB3 single head machine changes the goal posts for pocket embroidery.

The pocket hoop attaches to the Quick Fit cap driver, which allows the pocket to rotate around the bed of the machine rather than just moving from side to side like a regular hoop.

When the pocket hoop is used with the new ultra slim, short bed on the BEKT you can embroider on even smaller pockets than has ever been possible before.

At our recent open day here in Melbourne we demonstrated something never done before embroidery directly onto a stubby cooler

BEKT CB3 benefits

- Faster colour change
- Quieter, smoother all-round operation
- New clear-span chassis for bulky goods
- New - ultra slim profile bed with shorter needle plate
- Increased design height on caps

Guests From Barudan Japan Join Our Team For The Technical Conference & Celebration of Barudan's 60th Year

Our 24 strong team from Australia and New Zealand welcomed Mr Shin Hasegawa who is the international sales manager for Barudan together with his staff Mr Arai and Mr Imazu

Barudan have achieved many firsts during their 60 years in embroidery machine manufacture.

Whilst many manufacturers have moved production to China in order to reduce costs, Barudan has maintained its manufacuring base in Ichinomiya, Japan.

All machines for the Australian, European and US markets are stil designed, built, and tested in Japan.

Tel. 1800 137 670 enquiries@embroiderysource.com.au

Three Ways To Tackle Team Names On Work-wear

The slow way - if truth be told this is how many work-wear embroiderers still handle names. Why? Because they just didn't have time to learn or maybe ..... they were never shown how.

Create the names one-by-one then save each name to USB or load each name into the machine one-by-one as separate designs.

Run the machine on the first name - Stop - change garments - Select the next design memory - Start again - Repeat

A faster way is to create a list of names in Wilcom by typing the names one-by-one in the 'QUICK NAMES' window. You can also choose names from lists that you have made previously.

Next you save or output all the names as a single Team Names design.

Start the machine to embroider the first name. The machine stops - you change garments and start again. The next name is embroidered automatically without having to select a different memory.

An even faster way for long lists is to ask your customer to provide the list of names in a spreadsheet or in a text file with a comma after the first and last names ..... Like this:

SAM,SMITH
JILL,FOWLER
ANDREW,NGUYEN

You can import/copy the list straight into Wilcom Team names.

It's fast and eliminates the risk of typing errors (on your part at least)

After the list has been imported, you can then choose whether you want to stitch them out in the original sequence or you can sort them into alphabetical order by either first or last name.

Alphabetical order is extremely useful for Barudan users who have the new Team Names Preview function.

This feature allows you to see a stitch-realistic view of the name that is currently being embroidered AND a preview of the next name in the list.

What if there's a last minute change to the order? Let's say your customer rings up and wants an extra shirt embroidered with a name you have already finished?

No problem! - You just scroll through the list on the left of the screen - select the name you need and embroider just that name

Easy as!

Ever Wondered Why You Struggle To Produce Fine Detail When Others Seem To Do It With Ease

Call Vinod on 1800 137 670 ..... ask for thin King Star thread.
For the best quality small block lettering you need ES Block - special Wilcom 'font'

A BANK IS A PLACE THAT WILL LEND YOU MONEY.....
.....BUT ONLY IF YOU CAN PROVE THAT YOU DON'T NEED IT

STOP! Before You Upgrade Your Computer or Windows

They say "Only two things in life are certain - Death & Taxes"

There is at least one other thing ..... There will come a time (probably quite soon) when you will have to upgrade, either because your computer will fail or because some new software that you rely upon just isn't compatible with an old Windows.

But the reverse may also be true. If you upgrade Windows you might just find that older versions of software including Wilcom will not be compatible with Windows.

Don't jump into the Upgrade deep-end without first checking.
Call Hayley on 1800 137 670 or email haleys@embroiderysource.com.au

10 Simple Ways To Improve Productivity

1. **Oil the sewing hook at least twice every 8hr day - Morning and at lunch time**
   A dry sewing hook will increase thread breakage, cause tension irregularities, become noisy and will wear out very quickly. *For Ease of use and to avoid over- oiling - Try LB5, 1 shot, aerosol lubricant to accurately deliver just 1 drop of oil*

2. **Use a fine bobbin thread**
   You'll get more thread on each bobbin, so longer runs between bobbin changes and flatter embroidery on the back of the garment. Ask Vinod about fine bobbin thread tel. 1800 137 670

3. Lubricate the needle bars
   Without lubrication (with fine oil) needle bars can become sticky. They require more force to drive them down and they don't return quickly enough under spring pressure. This can cause skipped stitches, thread breakage, will make the machine very noisy and eventually lead to expensive repairs

4. **Change all the bobbins at the same time (multi-head machines)**
   Bobbin just never run out at exactly the same time but they will all run out fairly soon after the fist one.

   You lose production at every bobbin change & repair. Change them all at the same time and throw way the less than 2 cents worth of thread that might be left on each bobbin

5. **Set your bobbin tensions to the optimum level (as light as possible)**
   Use a bobbin tension gauge to quickly and accurately set all bobbins to exactly the same tension - then adjust needle tensions to suit.

   It's a common mistake to do the opposite by adjusting bobbin tension to match needle tension. That's wrong and will ultimately lead to problems. That's because when bobbin tensions are too tight, then needle tension must also be tightened to compensate.
   The end result is often increased puckering and increased thread breakage

6. **Use a fine needle when embroidering fine fabrics**
   Size 11 is a good, general purpose needle but it's too thick for fine knits and fine wovens. A size 11 can push fabric down through the needle hole, increase thread breaks and reduce stitch / design quality.

   It can also burst the loops in knitted fabric resulting in laddering of the fabric.....which might not be noticed until the customer washes the garment for the first time
   Which would you rather do? Replace a damaged garment for $15.00 ..... or a needle for $0.30

7. **Reduce thread breakage with this simple idea**
   Old threads can become dry and brittle. Some fabrics and some designs can also increase thread breakage. Spray the cone of thread with Silicone then let it soak for a few minutes. This lubricates the thread and can help to improve stitch out performance. (Vinod is our man for Silcone spray)

8. **Hoop garment correctly**
   The inner hoop must be pressed all the way down until it can't go any further. The fabric will then be held as close to the needle plate as possible, which helps to minimise fabric flagging, reduces thread breakage and improves stitch quality

9. **Avoid using tear away backing especially on stretch fabrics if you can**
   Tear-away backing is quick and convenient but it's not good for overall embroidery quality or machine performance.

   Tear-aways can quite literally tear away during embroidery. When that happens the fabric can move around during stitching causing poor stitch quality and design registration problems

10. **Can you run your machines a bit faster?**
    The latest Barudan models are designed and tested to run well at high speed so don't be afraid to try it. Just keep them lubricated and clean. If you have a yearly service then you have up to 7 years warranty and stitch quality guarantee.
    Would we advise you to run them faster if we thought that it would lead to more FOC warranty work for us?

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Make Sure That You Continue To Receive Future Copies Of Your Free Tech Tips & Info Newletter

The very high cost of printing, packing and mailing over 3,000 newsletters has forced us to make a change. There will be only one printed newsletter each year, but we will continue to send regular email newsletters with new product articles plus tech tips for productivity, quality and software.

If our monthly emails are of interest to your business, we need your permission to send
Please go to our home page: https://www.embroiderysource.com.au
Click on the **Sign Up For Your Free Newsletter** link

You can choose one or both options:

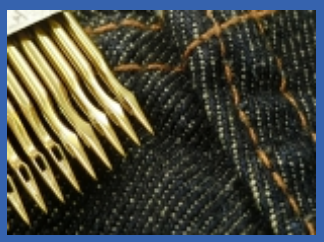
1. Embroidery and Print For Apparel
OR
2. Sign & Promotional Products - (Solvent and UV printers)

Just one helpful tip could benefit your business.....and you can un-subscibe at any time

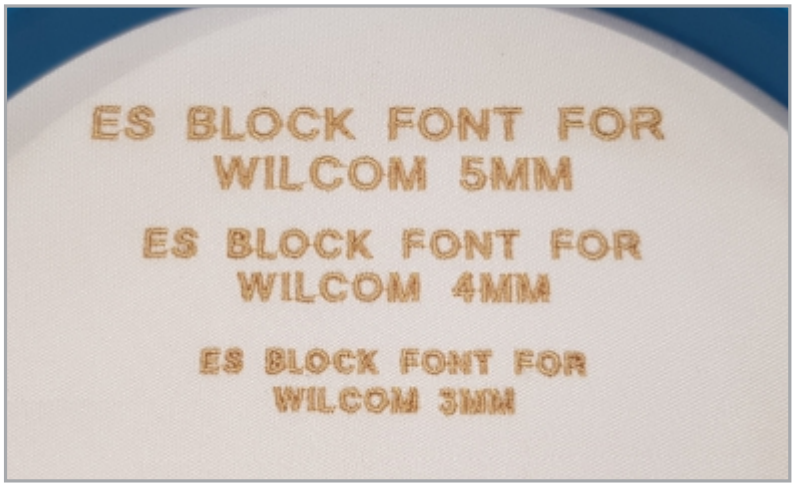
Product of The Month

Organ PD Titanium coated needles have grown massively in popularity simply because they last much longer.

- Titanium coating reduces wear so needles last longer
- Increased blade rigidity reduces needle flexing and breakage on caps with centre seams.



The Most Popular Add-On Font For Wilcom ES Block (UR)



This image shows an actual size, ES Block stitch-out on polyester knit fabric using a size 9 needle and King Star fine embroidery thread

An enormous amount of time an effort was invested in creating this font and for a very simple reason and that is to eliminate the time that is wasted every day by thousands of embroidery designers around the world, trying to get their block font to look better at small sizes.

It used to be that ***"5mm is the minimum we can do"*** but you know how customers are. They complain and pressure you and even tell you that your competitor can do it (even if they can't)

Well, the bottom line is that your competitors might well be able to do it..... if they are using ES Block.

This hand digitised font has all of the adjustments that used to be done manually by old-school digitisers but now the changes happen automatically without you even knowing.

As the font size is decreased, stem overlaps are reduced automatically to avoid lumps and stem shapes are changed to improve stitch-our quality and stem evenness.

ES Block offers a big improvement with regular needle and thread but it's even better with a fine needle and thread. **For just $235, ES Block is a no-brainer**

Digital Decoration NEWSLETTER

embroidery source Digital

The Impressive Mimaki Display
At This Year's FESPA Show In Frankfurt Germany

It's not like climate science... there's no debate .... Digital Decoration Is Booming

Automatic embroidery has been around for ages and I don't think it's going away anytime soon.

You see there's no other decoration method that offers the high quality look and feel of embroidery and the ability to decorate fabrics with irregular surfaces like beanies, school jumpers, towels Etc. Those types of fabric are just not compatible with either print or heat applied logos.

But there exists a very large and lucrative market for printed products and demand within the embroidery industry and elsewhere that is growing at a break-neck speed .

Now anyone who has ever used an embroidery machine knows well, that if you increase an embroidery design size by 1,000 stitches that the run time by will increase by 1 to 2 minutes. There are some ways including the use of appliques that can dramatically reduce the stitch count of large logos but the setup time for appliques means that it is most beneficial for larger production runs.

Printing overcomes many of the design size limitations - As you increase the size of printed logos the cost does increase but by only by a fraction of the increase for embroidery. You do use more vinyl and/or more ink but those costs are small in comparison to those for embroidery.

Now add to that, the following benefits:

- Heat applied logos don't cause the fabric to pucker
- In the unlikely event of a problem during printing then only the printed vinyl is wasted (not the garment)
- Fine detail and photographic quality images can be printed. Colour blends and drop-shadows that cannot be reproduced with embroidery are no problem at all.
- Special effect garment films are available including:

  - Metallic - gold, silver and colours
  - Neon - for running, cycle & safety wear
  - Reflective - for running, cycle & safety wear

For single colour logos and/or names, production times and costs can be reduced even more by using a coloured, cut-only garment film. No printing time, no ink cost and no transfer film required.

Just cut, weed & heat

Tel. 1800 137 670 enquiries@embroiderysource.com.au

A Heat Press Is a Hard Working And Vital Part of Many Businesses These Days, But What Happens If It Fails..... It's Panic Stations

The heat press has a critical role to play in the production room of many businesses and yet very often there's no back-up in case of a break-down and everything grinds to a STOP!

So whether you are considering your first heat press or maybe even a backup press, here are some important points to consider.

1. Is it safe - both mechanically and more important - electrically?
2. Are temperature and pressure accurate across the whole of the press area?
3. Is it well made with quality components and with local access to spare parts and tech support?
5. How is the warranty? Remember - warranty will be back-to-base for repair, so production stops for however long the repair takes.

In the grand scheme of things, a good heat press is a minor investment but plays an important role in our business.

How long can you survive without your heat press?

Adkins is the UK's best known manufacturer of heat presses. They take pride in the fact that they still service and repair presses that they built and supplied 20+ years ago.
That's how well made the Adkins Beta range of heat presses are and yet they are incredibly well priced compared with other well know US brands.

Beta Maxi - swing away ($2,980 + GST & shipping)

- High pressure
- Suitable for thick and thin objects
- Quick change lower platen for smaller garments
- Clear view of lower platen.
- Heated bed swings to one side for safety & clear view
- Digital temperature and timer display
- A very good all-round heat press for DTG, Vinyl, Dye sub, Laser transfers.

EZ - clamshell ($1,870 + GST + shipping)

- Medium pressure
- Thin products only
- Interchangeable lower platen including shoe platen
- Auto-open
- Digital temperature and timer display
- An affordable heat press offering automatic open, suitable for flat, thin items like DTG, Vinyl and some dye sublimation.

Combi Cap & pocket press ($1,558+ GST & shipping)

- Fast change over from cap to pocket
- Sprint loaded cap tensioning device
- Digital temperature setting
- Digital timer
- Solid construction

Combi with cap attachment fitted

Combi with pocket attachment fitted

Beta major - air swinger ($5,250 + GST + shipping)

- Push button auto-close
- Auto open
- Accurate, repeatable pressure
- Interchangeable lower platen
- Auto-open
- Digital temperature and timer display
- A high quality providing very accurate pressure and temperature with minimum operator fatigue.

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Roland Versa Studio BT 12
Portable, Full Colour Direct To Garment Printer For White & Light Coloured garments - $4,475 + GST

Starting up a Direct To Garment printing service just became a lot easier and cheaper with the Roland BT-12. This compact, easy to use machine is ideal for printing full colour images onto white and light coloured cotton garments, linen, poly cotton blends and some other natural fibres.

- Print up to A4 size in ful colour
- Compact and portable
- Automatic head print-head cleaning
- Use with a heat press or optional HT-12 heat finishing unit
- Print BMP, PNG, TIFF, JPEG & PDF files from Corel or Adobe
- Includes Roland design software (Windows & Mac compatible)

Is It Time To Trade-In Your Old Vinyl Printer/Cutter For One That's Faster, Wider, With More Advanced Features..... And It's Cheaper To Run?

You might be surprised to know just how much more performance and value you get for just a few thousand dollars more.

If you are running a 24" / 60cm printer cutter then you are probably pretty happy with it. After all they are great little machines. They're quiet, reliable and they print good quality logos.

But you know that old saying that goes.... ***"You don't know..... what you don't know"***.

Like the good old car you once thought you would never change.....until you drove something new that opened up your eyes to just how much better newer products can be.

Our best selling vinyl printer and cutter is the Mimaki CJV150-75 and when we compare it to the smaller, light-weight models there are so many great benefits

- Wider print and cut - up to 800mm
- Heavy duty stand included (with castors)
- Advanced colour accuracy from 8 col print head
- Print and cut speeds more than double
- Automatic printed film roll-up device
- Advanced heater drier - 3 separate zones
- Automatic pinch roller pressure adjustment
- Orange inks - brilliant reds and oranges
- Automatic nozzle blockage detection and cleaning.
- Up to 5 years optional parts warranty including heads

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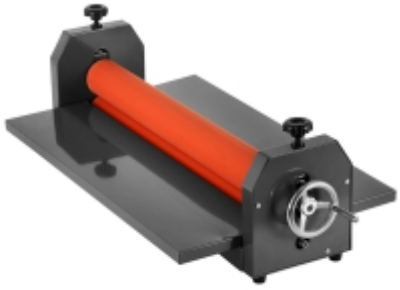
Do You Struggle With Application Of Transfer Film on Your print & Cut Logos?

Manual application of laminate film or transfer tape can be a slow and frustrating job. Getting it to lie flat without bubbles or creases can be difficult - especially over large areas..... Not anymore!



Laminate film up to 750mm wide

Don't despair - there is a quick, easy and relatively inexpensive solution that once you have tried it you will wonder how you ever got by without it.

ESiLam75 is a cold lamination machine that provides quick and easy lamination of printed vinyl with either application film for heat applied logos or with UV protective laminate for printed sign vinyl.

Simply cut a piece of application film or laminate that is about the same size as the sheet of printed film. Place it on top with the adhesive side facing down but with the removable backing still attached to the laminate.

- Feed both sheets through the lamination machine by about 25 to 30cm
- Lift the laminate sheet and peel about 15 to 20cm of the laminate backing and then fold it back on itself.
- Turn the laminator in reverse so that the folded backing moves under the rollers to the entry side of the machine
- Take hold of the folded backing film and remove the backing film from the whole sheet
- Now turn the turn the rollers forward again to feed both sheets through for a perfect application of film to your printed sheet

ESiLam75 Just $375.00 + GST & shipping

The Print Head Is The Most Important & The Most Expensive Part of Your Printer..... Shouldn't You Look After It?

Vinyl print & cut machines are generally very reliable....but that doesn't mean that you can Use-And-Abuse

When a piece of equipment works really well and so reliably, there is a risk of overlooking the small amount of maintenance that needs be done.

"We got away with it before so it will be OK this time"
Well of course there will come a time when you will get bitten and you won't like the repair cost.

Lack of regular maintenance will damage the head and hurt your pocket. Here's what you should do.

✓ Keep the workroom at a reasonable temperature. High temperatures cause ink to dry out more quickly.

✓ Don't use ink that is past the expiry date

✓ DAILY - Run regular nozzle print checks and head cleans to make sure that all nozzles are firing correctly.

✓ WEEKLY - clean the rubber seal around the capping station to remove dried ink deposits.

✓ WEEKLY - clean the rubber print head wiper blade to remove dried ink deposits.

✓ YEARLY - replace the dampers, capping station top and wiper blade.

Dampers are small ink reservoirs/filters that sit above the print head. The filters can block up over time with tiny dried ink particles, reducing ink flow to the print head, which can cause ink starvation or print drop-out

The capping station - has a soft rubber lip that presses up against the print head and forms and air tight seal when the printer is not in use. This prevents the head from drying out.

It also creates a vacuum under the print head during head cleaning. If air can leak past the seal then the effectiveness of print head cleaning is reduced or may not work at all.

The wiper blade functions in a similar way to the windscreen wipers on your car except that it cleans the underside of the print head.

Instead of cleaning the print head, a dirty wiper blade will spread semi-dried ink across the face of the print head, which can block nozzles.

Last but not least is the capping station pump which is used to suck ink from the underside of the head during ink fils and head cleans. Pumps can fail due to dried ink but will also lose effectiveness over time and will need to be replaced.

Tel. 1800 137 670 enquiries@embroiderysource.com.au

I'm Hearing A Lot About Laser Printed Logos Can I use Them In My Business?

The growth in popularity suggests that there is certainly a place for laser logos. New, improved media types are both easier to use and more versatile.

Now there is no argument - print and cut vinyl (or PU film) is by far, one of the most widely used methods for adding single colour and multi-colour logos to a wide range of fabric types and colours..... So why would anyone think about an alternative like laser printed logos?

Here are the main benefits

- Laser printers are very fast and very reliable
- Laser printers need very little maintenance
- You don't need to create cut lines for logos
- No weeding required
- No application tape/film required
- Low heat press temp so no dye migration

Print & Cut PU films are great for jobs that have fairly simple outlines and with small amounts of text. Some jobs are just too complex and time consuming for print & cut.

For example: Those end of year, high school jumpers with all the student's names..... the amount of time required to cut then weed simply makes the job too slow and too expensive..

Screenprinting - setup time - Setup fee - increased cost for every extra colour.

DTG - Great for cotton and cotton rich garments but not for coloured polyester

Laser - Quick setup - no cut lines - no weeding - can be used on most fabric types and all colours.

Laser media cost - $4.92 for both A & B sheets (A3 size) as compared to print & cut film at $4.62 (A3 size)

Possible to print multiple logos on each sheet

Ideal for pocket size logos on fabric that won't be stretched too much

Introducing The ES Digital Cut & Press Package It's An Outstanding Value Investment

If you don't already have one, an automatic vinyl cutter can be a great investment for your business. An investment that will make your customers happy and will pay for itself very quickly.

Cut vinyl - or what is more commonly used now PU film is a great complimentary service to offer with embroidery and is especially good for those big 1 or 2 colour shirt or jacket back logos or lettering.

The benefits of heat applied garment films are:

1. It doesn't matter how small or how big the logo is, it still takes only around 15 seconds to heat press it onto the garment.
2. Heat press garment films lie flat and don't cause puckering of the fabric.
3. You can type letters in Corel Draw and send the job directly to the cutter using the Mimaki Simple Cut plugin for Corel Draw or Adobe Illustrator

Here's what's included:
* Mimaki CG60 SR3 automatic cutter & plotter + software
* Adkins EZiclam - auto-open 40cm x 50cm heat press
* 10 mtr roll of SEF, Flexcut PU garment film (Black)
* 10 mtr roll of SEF, Flexcut PU garment film (White)
* Weeding tool
* 10 pack of Kraft paper garment protection sheets

Normally . . . . . ~~$4,197.00~~
Package deal - $3,897.00 + GST+ shipping

YOU SAVE $300

Tel. 1800 137 670 enquiries@embroiderysource.com.au

Tech Tips for Vinyl Cutters

If you are having problems because the film is not weeding cleanly then the first and most important question is this :

Are you 100% sure that the blade is perfectly sharp and is the correct type for the product you are cutting?

Having a brand-new blade at hand can save so much trouble shooting time and it takes only seconds to change.

If you know that the blade is good then there are only a few adjustments that you might need to make in order to ensure good cutting performance.

The amount of blade that protrudes from the bottom of the blade holder should be about the same as the thickness of a credit card.
If it doesn't protrude far enough, the bottom of the blade holder will rub on the surface of the film. Once that happens, the film will not be cut cleanly regardless of how much down force is applied to the blade

If too much of the blade is protruding then there is a possibility that the blade will cut through both the film and the carrier sheet and into the cutting strip.

This can affect cutting quality, cause undue wear and tear to the cutter and damage the cutting strip

The down-force on the cutting blade should be just enough to cut through the film and leave a faint cut mark in the carrier film
If there is not enough down-force then the blade will not cut through the film at all, or it might cut in some places but not in others.

If you see gaps in the cutting marks on the carrier film then a little more pressure is required

If the cutting speed is too fast, then the blade might skip in some places and the film will not be fully cut
Find a cutting speed that gives you the best productivity whilst also cutting cleanly in all areas

Adjust the pinch rollers so that they run close to the edges of the sheet.
Too close to the edge - The pinch roller might run off the edge altogether and the sheet will stop feeding - so make sure that you load the sheet straight in the cutter

Too far from the edge of the sheet - The sheet might twist when the blade is cutting close to the edges.

Check the pinch roller condition
The rubber on each of the pinch rollers should be soft and round. Over time, the rubber can become hard and develop flat spots, which will reduce the grip and increases the possibility of film slipping under the rollers.

The metal grit rollers are directly under the pinch rollers, have a rough surface that is designed to grip the underside of the film and feed it forwards and backwards
Over time, the grit rollers can become contaminated with dirt and/or residue, which makes the grit surface smooth and reduces the grip. Check and clean when necessary.

Blade offset
There are several different types of cutting blade made for use with different types and thicknesses of film or for cutting fine detail (small) character.

Each of these blade types has a default offset that must be changed in the cutter parameters. When the offset is set correctly then corners should be cut cleanly. Square corners should be cut as square.

An incorrect offset will result in either rounded corners or hooked corners.

TIP: Eventually he tip of the blade will begin to lose its sharpness and you will find that jobs become more difficult to weed.

You can extend the life of the blade by:

* Increasing the down-force
* Reducing the cut speed
* A combination of both of the above

TIP: Some products - like glitter and especially reflective films are abrasive. Cutting those product will blunt a new blade very quickly.

Once a blade has been used for reflective film it is very unlikely that it will cut regular or stretch film again.

We recommend that you keep two blades. A new blade for cutting regular garment films and an used blade for use with reflective film.

It takes only a few seconds to exchange the blades. Just remember that you will have to increase down-force and possibly reduce cut speed too for reflective film. Those adjustment can be made either from the control panel of the cutter or from the cutting software.