

RapidWash

Q: How much water/solvent does it take to clean the system?

A: Because the H&B RapidWash uses a recirculation tank for first-stage wash, both solvent & water use approximately 3 gallons/wash-up. This amount does not vary greatly because most of the fluid & time is used to clean the pumps & hoses.

Q: Does the anilox get clean even if you don't use nozzles?

A: Nozzles actually impede the ability of the cleaning process. Because we never let the anilox roll dry, and we are able to generate a tremendous amount of flow with the pumps, the cleaning process is fast and efficient. We can say that we have NEVER had a complaint about the cleaning effectiveness of RapidWash.

Q: Why do you use independent delivery/wash-up stations? Isn't that more expensive?

A: Independent stations allow much greater flexibility in the press room where space is typically limited. They can be stacked, put back to back, or wherever space allows. When dealing with ink there will always be maintenance issues with pumps, valves, etc. When a maintenance issue does occur with one station, the other stations are still operational. You can also buy a spare station which will interchange with any station on any deck. With a common control box & OSHA lock out/tag out rules, you have to shut the entire press down until the problem is fixed. This costs a little more initially but the flexibility it brings definitely pays for itself in short order.

Q: Why do you use a touch screen instead of push buttons?

A: Touch screens cost more but they allow you to change the basic function cycle times via a password. This allows you to optimize wash cycles for your particular operation and ink system. With push buttons you would have to call us out for each change you wanted to make. Touch screens can also have multilingual screens and accommodate custom features.

Q: Why is the HydroComp loading system better for wash-up systems?

A: To be truly automated you must compensate for blade wear automatically. To minimize scoring of the anilox rolls you have to have a light loading pressure. If you do this with air only, which is compressible, you have to run a high air pressure, especially in the wash mode. By utilizing non-compressible oil we can load at very low pressure and the system does not back away when we enter the pressure wash mode.

Q: How can you wash all of the hoses, even the ones to the ink bucket?

A: We have a unique method of isolating the ink bucket from the cleaning process. This patent pending process utilizes a custom bucket lid with special valving. This valving process also allows you to purge the residual wash water/solvent from the hoses before your new ink is returned to the bucket.

Q: Who takes care of all the facilities integration to make this happen?

A: We do and it is included in the price. An H&B service technician will visit your facility to measure your press, discuss all facilities issues with respect to the RapidWash installation. From there an H&B project engineer will handle the project through design and installation to make sure all details are addressed.