White ECO-SOL MAX Ink for the
Roland XC-540 and SC-545EX Printer/Cutter

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the cost of White ECO-SOL MAX ink and when will it be available?

A. White ECO-SOL MAX ink will be available for purchase January 25, 2008 for a price of $99.99 per 220ml cartridge.

Q. What are the improvements of White ECO-SOL MAX ink?

A. The new White ECO-SOL MAX ink offers many improvements over our first generation white ink. The new white ink has a higher opacity and higher density level. As a result of this improvement it is possible to print high quality white gradations and a higher color gamut is achieved when using the white ink as an undercoat for CMYK. Our new white ink is much sharper and can produce crisp text and high resolution images.   White ECO-SOL MAX ink is also more scratch resistant than our previous white ink. On top of these improvements the new ink offers savings at a price that is 20% lower than our original white ink and enables users to print on a wide variety of cost reducing uncoated materials.

Q. What models can White ECO-SOL MAX ink be used with?

A. Both the XC-540 and the SC-545EX can be configured to print white ink. New 2008 XC-540 printers will be delivered with a white ink conversion kit and white ink kits will be available for existing unused XC-540 units. SC-545EX printers currently using our first generation white ink can upgrade to White ECO-SOL MAX ink.

Q. What kind of media can be used with White ECO-SOL MAX ink?

A. When equipped with the white ink option both the XC-540 and the SC-545EX can print on a wide range of coated and uncoated materials. Due to the white ink capability it is possible to effectively print on clear and translucent substrates. Roland's media line offers a good selection of tested and profiled media for white ink applications such as our Clear Solvent Film (CSF) and Clear Adhesive Vinyl (SPVCT). The printers can also produce exceptional CMKY output using our other fine media products like solvent glossy paper, block out banner vinyl and premium cast vinyl from our Eco Sol Media (ESM) line.

Q. What types of applications can I use white ink for?

A. White ECO-SOL MAX ink can be used for a wide range of applications. It is ideal for package comps, window films, labels, signs, decals and point of purchase displays. However, white ink applications are not limited to transparent media. When using the XC-540 or the SC-545EX with White ECO-SOL MAX ink it is possible to print white floods on opaque pigmented substrates and create stunning graphics.

Q. What is the average running cost for White ECO-SOL MAX ink?

A. The average running cost for the XC-540 when using White ECO-SOL MAX ink is $1.26 a square foot. For the SC-545EX the average running cost is $1.40 a square foot.

Q. How fast are the XC-540 and the SC-545EX when printing with ECO-SOL MAX ink?

A. The XC-540 has a maximum print speed of 301 sfph and the SC-545EX of 160 sfph for CMYK applications. When printing with white ink the maximum print speed for the XC-540 and the SC-545EX is 38.8 sfph. On both printers it is only possible to print white ink in high quality modes. Please refer to the following chart for the recommend modes and speeds for CMYK + White printing.

XC-540

Mode	Resolution	Passes	CMYK	White
High Quality	720 X 1440 dpi	9	57 sfph	n/a
High Quality (W-Pass)	720 X 1440 dpi	16	n/a	38.8 sfph

SC-545EX

Mode	Resolution	Passes	CMYK	White
High Quality	720 X 1440 dpi	8	46.3 sfph	n/a
High Quality (W-Pass)	720 X 1440 dpi	16	38.8 sfph	38.8 sfph

Q. What print options are available for the XC-540 and the SC-545EX?

A. Both printers will feature five print options. There is one white print option and one CMYK print option. For CMYK+White printing a total of three options will be available. The five different print options are listed below:

- White Print

- CMYK Print

- White Print + CMYK Print

- CMYK Print + White Print

- CMYK Print + White Print + CMYK Print

Q. What is the highest resolution I can get using White ECO-SOL MAX ink?

A. When using White ECO-SOL MAX ink on the XC-540 and the SC-545EX it is possible to print at a maximum resolution of 720 X 1440 dpi. In CMYK applications the maximum resolution increases to 1440 X 1440 dpi.

Q. How many print heads does the white ink occupy?

A. Both the XC-540 and the SC-545EX have two print heads dedicated to white ink. This configuration allows a total of four cartridges to be assigned to white ink and two cartridges of each color for CMYK.

Q. Can I use VersaWorks to run my printer with white ink?

A. Yes, new XC-540 units will ship with VersaWorks 2.6 and existing units will be able to obtain the newer version through online updates. This version of VersaWorks will also work on the SC-545EX.

Q. Do I need new profiles if I already have a XC-540 or a SC-545EX?

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A. Yes, for XC-540 printers new profiles will be required because of the new white ink configuration. On existing SC-545EX units new profiles will be required due to the new ink formulation. White ink profiles will be available through VersaWorks online updates. New 2008 XC-540 printers will ship with VersaWorks 2.6 and will include white ink profiles.

Q. Do I need any additional heaters for my printer when using White ECO-SOL MAX ink?

A. The XC-540 is equipped with three heaters (Pre, Print, Post). However, it is recommended that the additional DU-540 Dryer/Blower be used to ensure proper ink adhesion and assist with dry times. On the SC-545EX it is recommended that a Benes Online Dryer be used for improved dry times.

Q. Can I use a Take-Up System when printing with white ink?

A. No, the Take-Up System cannot be used when printing CMYK + White applications. Similar to our print/cut workflow it is necessary for media to be retracted when printing CMYK + White. This function is not supported by the Take-Up System.

Q. What is the dry time for White ECO-SOL MAX ink?

A. Dry time for White ECO-SOL MAX ink varies and is media dependent. Uncoated media tends to dry much quicker than coated media. The recommended dry time for white ink graphics or white ink floods is 15 minutes. For colors printed on white ink the dry time is also 15 minutes.

Q. Can I change from White ECO-SOL to White ECO-SOL MAX?

A. Yes, it is possible to change from White ECO-SOL to White ECO-SOL MAX. To convert printers currently using our original white ink it will be necessary to upgrade the existing firmware and VersaWorks to version 2.6 or later. The execution of an ink switch operation will also be required.

Q. Can I change my machine to a six color configuration once I have set up the white ink?

A. No. Once a XC-540 or SC-545EX is configured for white ink it cannot be reconfigured to a six color printer.

Q. Will the white ink need special ventilation?
A. No, Roland's White ECO-SOL MAX ink does not require special ventilation. Like the rest of the ECO-SOL MAX colors, our new white ink is virtually odorless and user-friendly.

Q. What cartridge sizes is White ECO-SOL MAX ink available in?
A. White ECO-SOL MAX ink is only available in the 220ml size. For CMYK colors, cartridges are available in 220ml and 440ml sizes. Larger 440ml cartridges can be used simultaneously with the 220ml white ink cartridges.

Q. Will the original White ECO-SOL MAX ink still be available?

A. No, new White ECO-SOL MAX ink will replace the original white ink.

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Q. Can anyone configure a XC-540 for white ink printing?

A. No, XC-540 units can only be configured by Roland Authorized Dealers.