

ValueJet 1204

Frequently Asked Questions

Table of Contents

Q: Why do my prints have a sine wave pattern as the ink is laid down?	1
Q: I notice a USB port but can't get it to work. Why?	1
Q: There is no Parallel printer port on the VJ-1204. How do I update firmware?	2
Q: My waste tank is full. How do I discard the inks?	2
Q: How much ink is used in a normal cleaning cycle?	2
Q: Can I use any inks other than EcoSolvent Ultra?	2
Q: Can I use 440ml cartridges in the ValueJet-1204	2
Q: What is an ICC profile?	3
Q: Where do I get ICC profiles?	3

Q: Why do my prints have a sine wave pattern as the ink is laid down?

A: The new ValueJet 1204 printer incorporates a new printing technique called Intelligent Interweaving or "I²". This function dynamically chooses the correct wave pattern for the print mode you are using to virtually eliminate vertical and horizontal banding. Traditional inkjet printers lay ink down in a straight line, making it easy for your eyes to see the stripes in the print. The wave pattern of I² makes it harder to see that defined line.

Q: I notice a USB port but can't get it to work. Why?

A: The ValueJet 1204 is still very new in its life, and for Mutoh the addition of USB connection is new as well. The USB port has been added to all printers manufactured from day one, but the USB drivers are still in development. Once these drivers are released the Mutoh ValueJet 1204 will be able to connect via USB or network whichever the end user prefers. Because the port has been added to all printers, there won't be a need to upgrade your printer's hardware once the driver is released. *Please check our website www.mutoh.com regularly for information regarding the USB drivers.*

Q: There is no Parallel printer port on the VJ-1204. How do I update firmware?

A: The ValueJet incorporates a newer operating system which allows us to use newer technology for communicating with the printer. Firmware is downloaded via TCP/IP using Mutoh's new Maintenance Engineer Assistant Program (MEA). Please contact your local dealer for information on updating printer firmware.

Q: My waste tank is full. How do I discard the inks?

A: That is the beauty of the Mutoh Eco ultra inks. They are ecologically friendly and can be discarded down the drain in most areas. It is strongly recommended however, that you check with your local codes to ensure this is OK for your area. MSDS sheets for the ink are available from Mutoh. If you are in need of these for local government approval they should be requested from your dealer. If you already have a waste disposal system set up for standard solvent inks, the Eco ultra inks can be discarded along with these.

Q: How much ink is used in a normal cleaning cycle?

A: This question gets asked quite a bit, however there is no real definitive answer. It is very hard to quantify how much ink is used during a cleaning cycle due to slight variations from printer to printer and even ink pump to ink pump each printer is slightly different. It is safe to say though that the amount of ink used is minimal in comparison to normal printing and as such is used not taken into account when calculating ink cost per square foot.

Q: Can I use any inks other than EcoSolvent Ultra?

A: No. The VJ-1204 was specifically designed for the Eco-Ultra inks. The use of any stronger "mild solvent" inks will damage internal components. These design features are what make the VJ-1204 the smallest and cheapest solvent printers on the market but at the same time maintain that high quality look and reliability you have come to expect from Mutoh products.

Q: Can I use 440ml cartridges in the ValueJet-1204

A: It is not recommended that you use the 440ml cartridges in the VJ printer. The Cartridge slots were only designed to support and protect the 200ml cartridges. The extended length of the 400ml cartridges make themselves as well as the cartridge slot components vulnerable to breakage if bumped or ran into by a foreign object such a roll of media or an office wall.

Q: What is an ICC profile?

A: An ICC profile or International Color Consortium is a standard put in place to ensure that a color seen on a CPU monitor or a color read by a scanner and the color produced by a printer all match. There are many types of profiles relating to the machine you are working with. In the digital printer world the term ICC profile has grown to encompass a variety of variables used to output the correct color. 1) In order to determine how large of a color gamut a given media can recreate you must first determine the maximum amount of ink the media can hold without causing excessive bleeding and or drying problems. 2) Once the maximum amount of ink is determined for each color, a linearization table must be created. This is to ensure that if a certain color requires 25% of a given ink (cyan for example) the printer actually outputs 25% of the maximum allowed ink for that particular color. 3) Once the printer is 'linearized' a color chart is printed out. This chart contains colors of known values. Once the chart is printed, it is read on a device called a spectrophotometer (or colorimeter) to compare the actual values printed by the printer to the expected values, creating a conversion that will allow the printer to produce the correct color.

Q: Where do I get ICC profiles?

A: For starters, each of the major third party RIP companies will provide 'base' or 'standard' profiles for a media type. Most of the time these will work just fine. If these do not meet your needs, please contact your local dealer representative. If you are using Mutoh's Diamond shield media, profiles are available on our web site at: <http://www.mutoh.com/products/DiamondShield/DiamondShieldMedia.htm>
