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Waterbased version of Seiko's RC1536 printhead captures the market

Seiko's Printek Division - the division responsible for the Industrial Inkjet printheads - is working very hard to bring to the market a truly dependable printhead for printing Water-based inks.

Initially the architecture was said to be compatible but soon our engineers realized that Water - the elixir of life for Humans - is actually attacking some parts of the printhead and an update is necessary to make the printhead compatible for the new environmental friendly challenges. Actually water has proved its corrosive behaviour time and again in different fields and in the case of the printhead too it could eat away through some of the critical parts of the printhead.

The problem was not only that. The engineers in Seiko realized that this corrosion is not happening during the Compatibility Testing but actually taking place during a Long Term Jetting Test which we do while testing the product. In such a test we are continuously moving the Piezo in the print head to simulate the life cycle of the printhead. These tests which actually had to be done after every iteration kept the engineers very busy to finally come up with the perfect parts which did not limit the functionality of the printhead and also remain stable for a time longer than the stipulated lifetime of the printhead.

It can be seen that there are existing products in the market which can print Water-based inks. However it is important to note that Seiko is not only bringing a Water-based printhead into the market, but actually bringing the Reliability and Robustness of its RC1536 series of printhead into the new generation market fitting perfectly to the Environmental Concerns of the New Age.

Starting from the Ceramics Market, where more and more environmental norms are disrupting the production; Seiko's RC1536 print head can be replaced one to one with its existing Oil-based versions. This makes it easy for the machine manufacturers to adapt the change and address the market demands at the earliest.

Apart from the Ceramic's market where the product was successfully Beta Tested the product is now being tested in other fields such as Corrugated Cardboard, 3D printing and even Textile. Seiko can see that there is a strong requirement in the market for a product that can cater to the high reliability, high drop volume and wide range of operations.

The next step for Seiko is to closely work with Ink Manufacturers to find out where are the limits and possibilities to develop a complete solution for the different market segments. Additionally it must be noted that Inkjet by itself is a Symphony and not a one man show. So to bring the much needed change into the market the entire process has to be worked out with the experts of the industry from the different parts of the process to make an Inkjet System work.

Get in touch with us and share the knowledge of the different products you have to offer or would like to make. Let's think and see where we can make the difference and strive for a much more environmental friendly approach to our daily lives.

Seiko Instruments GmbH

The today's Seiko Group developed from a watch shop which was founded as long ago as 1881 by Kintaro Hattori in Tokyo/Japan. We, the Seiko Instruments GmbH, with our headquarters in Neu-Isenburg/Germany, were established for the purpose of distribution in EMEA (EuropeMiddleEastAfrica). Our product portfolio includes coin batteries, quartz crystals, thermal printers and inkjet print heads.

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