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How to Save Money by Using A Rotation Mixer for Sheetfed Inks ?

The industry standard for mixing sheetfed inks is to use a shaft mixer with Blades or by hand. This is the way it has been done for many years. Well, technology has moved on. Today, Inks are being mixed more economically and cleaner with Rotation Mixers.

The concept is similar to what is done in the local paint store. The ink is placed in a container (any heavy plastic or metal container) clamped into the machine and the automatic timer stops the machine when the batch is finished.

Why Use a Rotation Mixer:

- Gone is the cleaning-up of the machine after each batch.
- Gone are the chemicals used to do the clean-up.
- Gone are the dirty rags used in the clean-up.

Just think of the labor savings; costs of chemicals and the costs to clean the dirty rags. Isn't a cleaner, safer work environment the goal for every printer ??

Let's look at the economics: (Use your own numbers)

If you do 10 batches of spot colors per shift and it takes 10 minutes to clean-up the mixer after each one, you have spent 100 minutes on that shift just to cleaning a mixer.

If your average labor cost is \$15.00 per hour, then this is costing you 25 cents per minute. Times this by 100 minutes and you are spending \$ 25.00 per shift per day to clean one mixer. Working 2 shifts per day and you are now spending \$50.00 per day.

Based on a 5 day work week, this amounts to \$250.00 per week. 50 weeks in the work year and you have spent **\$ 12,500.00** just to clean one mixer. Please remember that this is only the cost of labor. Now factor in the costs of chemicals; rags (or throw-away paper towels); and the cleaning of the rags. In this case, **the ROI is under 6 months.**

The fact is:

“Rotation Mixers will save you a substantial amount of money and time”.



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How to blend with a "ROTATION MIXER" using North American "Slip-Top" cans.

This modern Table-Top blender has been developed in association with renowned manufacturers of Inks and Lacquers. The VM 1000 handles a single can per cycle (depending on size of cans). If more than one can is being mixed in the same cycle, stack the cans on top of each other.



When using the standard North American (slip-top) ink can, we suggest that you use the taller version of the 5 pound can. This provides extra room for the ink to rotate. The manufacturer suggests that from 10 to 15% of the mixing container should be vacant. The VM 1000 and VM 2000 were originally manufactured for the 2 piece European Vacuum Sealed Cans.

It is important to position the container in the middle of the mixing table using an adapter slightly larger than the diameter of the can. The standard ink can cover has too much air space between the top and the side wall of the can. Use a fixed ring and a strong foil (1.5 mm thick) or a plate covered with foil.

This insures that the can is completely closed. After blending, dispose of the foil and/or put a clean cover on the can of ink for shipment.

The VM 1000 will handle up to a 10 pound batch. It is designed for single can use. The VM 2000 is a stronger machine and can handle multiple cans of ink, up to 20 pounds. Both machines will mix metal and plastic containers.

Important Notes: VM 1000 capacity is 11 pounds (5 kilos).
VM 2000 capacity is 22 pounds (10 kilos).

It is NOT advised to run the machines at maximum capacity to often.