

Advanced Application Notes

SOLARA™ UV2

FastFact #7034



User Notes 4.0

Printing to the end of a sheet of media

Step 1: Turn on Solara UV2. Clean and load material using prescribed methods for rigid printing.

Tip: Check that the SOLARA is able to effectively feed the material forward and back when going through its material scan and load procedure.

Step 2: Create a “tail” for your media—take a piece of the same substrate you just loaded into the printer. Ensure that the front and rear edges are straight and square. This substrate must also be exactly the same width as the sheet you just loaded into the SOLARA.

Step 3: Cut a strip of vinyl about 5” wide and a little longer than the width of your sheet. This vinyl will be used as “tape” to attach the “tail” (described in step 2) to the sheet loaded into the printer.

Alternate: Depending on the thickness and weight of the material, wide masking tape may be an acceptable substitute

Apply this vinyl or tape to the underside of the substrate and tail. Ensure that your application of the vinyl/tape is smooth and without wrinkles. Also, ensure the leading edge adheres very well so that the tape will not ball-up as it feed through.

WARNINGS:

DO NOT SUBSTITUTE DUCT TAPE. Duct tape will compress when going under the feed wheels and will likely cause a problem in continuing to move the media forward.

DO NOT USE PREMASK OR TRANSFER TAPE. The tack level of premask is not sufficient to attach the tail to the lead board effectively.

Factoid:

Most of the commonly used substrates in the sign industry come in standard 4'x8' sheet sizes.

The material feed mechanism on the Gerber SOLARA UV2 printer is such that it will have to stop printing 4 1/2” from the tail end of the media regardless of the length of the media. Therefore, if you want to print completely to the tail end of the media, you must simply attach add a 5” “tail” to the trailing edge of the substrate to effectively drive the material through the print carriage area.