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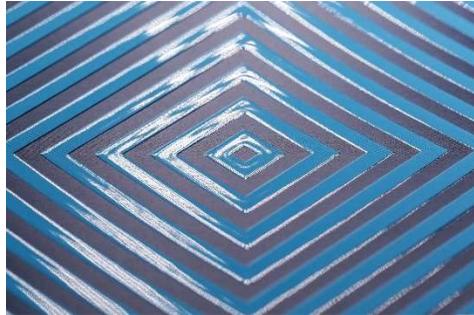
Digital Special Effects & Embellishments
Scodix Ultra 2 Pro

Historically, traditional specialty finishing has been used to make a statement or give a tactile experience to your printed piece. In traditional specialty processes, embossing requires two dies and a separate press run after any varnishing or laminating. Foil stamping require dies to be ordered, which can take days, these traditional techniques are costly and can be time consuming.

Welcome to ENHANCE™ by Kirkwood – our digital embellishment applications. ENHANCE™ FOIL, ENHANCE™ UV, ENHANCE™ TOUCH, ENHANCE™ BRAILLE, ENHANCE™ VARIABLE.

ENHANCE™ offers a digital solution to all your design challenges, enabling increased responsiveness, adding elegance and luxury, while ensuring a reasonable turnaround with the highest quality. Add glitter, shine, raised elements, different textures and metallic colors. This digital technology means you can create a one-off proof and approve it, before progressing to production – regardless of whether you are producing short or long runs. Digital means less time, less expense and if you can envision it, we can help you create it.

ENHANCE TIPS & TRICKS & BEST PRACTICES:

Coated stocks:
- Deliver consistent results, our house sheet is Sappi Flo
- Heavier stocks work better, up to 30pt, 150 gsm
- Lightest stock 100# text

Uncoated stocks:
- May need to be special ordered, and can affect the consistency of ENHANCE process
- Polymer absorption rates and foil adherence may require testing
- White ink, may require under ENHANCE for polymer/foil support

Fonts:
- Use block fonts opposed to Serif fonts, they deliver better results
- Script fonts on coated stock, should be no smaller than 14pt. (may require testing)
- Standard letter spacing (tracking or kerning) is recommended

Foils:
- Gloss - Gold & Silver, Matte – Gold & Silver are stocked foils
- Red, Green, Blue, Pearl, Black, Copper, Rose Gold, Gold Holographic are special order

Sheet sizing:
- Minimum: 11.7" x 16.6"
- Maximum: 21.5" X 31"
- Maximum Image area: 19.86" X 29.5" (including press OPA dots,12mm from sheet edge all sides)
- Coverage cannot exceed 30% of sheet – in one pass
- Coverage over 30% may require additional passes

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ADDITIONAL FACTS:

- No plates or make-ready needed
- Indigo digital printing has a maximum sheet thickness of 18 pt.
- ENHANCE height can range from 20-250 microns in height, 100 times higher than some varnish techniques.
- ENHANCE Braille produces letters at 250 microns in height
- Synthetic stocks, pressure sensitive and cling products work well due to their coatings
- ENHANCE UV, over solid colors, enhances and brightens, compared to no coating
- Both ENHANCE FOIL and ENHANCE UV can be screened starting from 10%
- Straight lines using ENHANCE UV and ENHANCE Foil of 1pt and below, may not be are solid as required
- ENHANCE can be used in conjunction with traditional finishing such as soft-touch lamination, digital printing, offset printing and die cutting.
- The effects are phenomenal and are ideal for simulating blind embossing, creating Braille text or simply generating unique images for impressive tactile designs.