



Stencil Decoating & Mesh Stain Removal Products

Stencil Strippers

Xtend Strip will rapidly remove direct, direct/indirect, capillary and indirect stencils, which are non gelatine based.

Strip Powder:

- Can be used on all types of mesh.
- Has no reaction with hard water, thus avoiding inactive sediment.
- Highly economical – supplied as an easy soluble powder.

Strip Liquid, properties as Strip Powder but:

- Supplied as a dilutable liquid concentrate.
- Ideal for use in automatic screen cleaning machines – will not block or corrode nozzles.

Strip LA, properties as Strip Liquid but:

- Lower acid formula – When diluted as recommended and mixed with waste water, pH neutral to drains.

Mesh Stain Removal Products

Antistain Gel XL

A solvent-based, alkaline gel which removes all types of stains from synthetic and stainless steel mesh. The most aggressive cleaner in the Xtend range.

- One-pack system – ready to use.
- Fast acting, and excellent cleaning power.
- Gel structure enables coating by trough or brush.
- Removes 'ghost image' stains caused by residual ink, direct emulsion or capillary film.

Antistain Paste

An alkaline cleaning paste which removes ink and stencil residues and prepares screens for all types of stencils.

- Rapid removal of ink and diazo stains when used in conjunction with Xtend screen cleaners.

Antistain/Antistain Ultra, Antistain Cream, Screen Cleaner UV, and Screen Gel Clear

These products have been developed to be used together for the effective removal of all ink and diazo stains from mesh.

Antistain/Antistain Ultra

- Removes ink and diazo stains when used in conjunction with Antistain Cream or Screen Cleaner UV.
- Antistain Ultra – gel structure for non drip application and enhanced performance.
- Antistain/Antistain Ultra are non-aggressive formulations, and will have no detrimental effect on synthetic mesh, no matter how long they are left on the screen.

Antistain Cream

- Patented non-caustic chemistry
- Designed to remove ink stains from all meshes in conjunction with Antistain/Antistain Ultra.

Screen Cleaner UV

- Designed to remove ink stains in conjunction with Antistain/Antistain Ultra.
- Effective screen cleaner during reclaiming process.

Screen Gel Clear

- Developed as a post-print cleaner.
- Reduces staining prior to screen reclaiming process.

To Remove Stencils

Using Strip Liquid or Powder

1. Strip Liquid:

Pour 1 ltr of Strip Liquid into a plastic bucket and add 20 ltrs of water to obtain the optimum diluted strength. Where longer dwell times are used, and for manual use, a dilution level of up to 1:55 may be used. For tough stencils a lower dilution rate and stronger solution may be required. Avoid diluting in a ratio lower than 1:10 as a very strong solution may make decoating difficult.

When using an automatic screen cleaning machines, use the diluted solution in accordance with the recommendations of the machine manufacturer. Periodic additions of neat Strip Liquid may be necessary in machines that recirculate the solution.

Strip LA:

For manual application, add 9 parts water to 1 part Strip LA for optimum diluted strength.

Strip Powder:

Dissolve the contents of a 100g. sachet in 10 or 5 ltrs of water in a plastic bucket to obtain either 1% or 2% strength liquid solution. A 1% strength solution is ideal for general use. The 2% solution may be required for removing old or particularly resistant stencils.

2. Ensure that the screen is completely free from ink residues. Xtend Screen Cleaners are particularly recommended for this purpose as they will remove most wet and dry inks. Wash both sides of the screen with Xtend Screen Cleaner until all traces of ink have been removed and the stencil has regained its original colour. See Information Sheet 'Screen Cleaners'.
3. Pressure wash both sides of the screen to remove ink Screen Cleaner, and filler, and allow to drain.
4. Apply Strip solution to both sides of the screen.
5. Allow to stand for a few minutes; if necessary apply more Strip solution. Do not allow the solution to dry in the screen as this may fuse the emulsion to the mesh and make decoating very difficult.
6. Remove the stencil using a high pressure water gun.
7. With some old and very stubborn stencils, decoating may not be entirely complete at this stage. In such cases, wash the stripping solution off the screen, apply Xtend Screen Cleaner to both sides of the still damp stencil, and rub well in. Allow to react for a few minutes, then hose off with water. Failing this, following the method of removal of severe ink and stencil stains with Antistain Ultra and Screen Cleaner UV will normally result in complete stencil removal.

Stencil Decoating & Mesh Stain Removal Products

Fast removal of ink and stencil stains – wet-on-wet application

Using Antistain Gel XL for quickest stain removal

1. Apply Antistain Gel XL to both sides of the wet mesh with a soft brush.
2. Allow to stand for up to 10 minutes (longer periods can be detrimental to synthetic mesh).
3. Rinse with water, then use a high pressure water gun to completely remove mesh stains.

Using Antistain Paste and Xtend Screen Cleaner

1. Apply any Xtend Screen Cleaner onto both sides of screen.
2. Add Antistain Paste to both sides of mesh, mixing the two products with a soft brush.
3. Allow to stand for 15 minutes. (Longer periods can be detrimental to synthetic mesh).
4. Rinse with water, then use a high pressure water gun to completely remove mesh stains.

Using Antistain Ultra and Screen Cleaner UV for quick stain removal

1. Brush Screen Cleaner UV onto both sides of the screen.
2. Apply Antistain Ultra to both sides of screen with a soft brush or coating trough, ensuring it is well mixed with the Screen Cleaner UV.
3. Allow to stand for 15 minutes, or longer, if required.
4. Hose off with water, and wash both sides of the screen using a high pressure water gun.

Dwell times can be changed, depending on the severity of the stain to be cleaned. The longer the dwell time, the more effective the cleaning action. Antistain/Antistain Ultra have no detrimental effect on synthetic mesh, no matter how long they are left on the screen.

Removal of severe ink and stencil stains – wet on dry application

Using Antistain Ultra and Xtend Screen Cleaner or Antistain Cream

1. Apply Antistain Ultra to both sides of mesh with a soft brush or coating trough. For optimum performance, the screen should be dry before application.
2. Allow to stand until dry. A cold air fan will speed drying and improve stain removal.
3. Brush any Xtend Screen Cleaner UV onto both sides of screen, directly over dried Antistain Ultra. Alternatively, for the toughest of stained screens, apply Antistain Cream in the same way.
4. Leave to react for up to thirty minutes.
5. Wash both sides of screen using a high pressure gun.

To reduce staining prior to screen cleaning process

Using Screen Gel Clear

1. Immediately after the print run, remove excess ink residue from screen.
2. Apply Screen Gel Clear using a coating trough. This will prevent remaining ink from drying until ready for reclaiming.
3. Leave on screen for up to 12 hours.
4. Hose off with water, and reclaim screen as normal.

Standard Packing

Strip Powder Stencil Decoating Concentrate

SSJ41	Packs of 5 x 100g. sachets
SSL02	1 x 100g sachets
SSL02	1kg containers

Strip Liquid Stencil Decoating Concentrate

SUH64	1 and 5ltr containers
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Strip LA Stencil Decoating Concentrate

SUD15	1ltr containers
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Antistain Gel XL Stain Remover

ANGXL	1 and 5kg containers
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Antistain Paste Alkaline Cleaning Paste

SJL53	1, 5 and 15kg containers
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Antistain Diazo Stain Remover

AND50	1 and 5 ltr containers
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Antistain Ultra Diazo Stain Remover

ANS81	5ltr containers
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Screen Gel Clear

OAA03	5kg containers
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Screen Cleaner UV

OAT42	5 and 15 ltr containers
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Antistain Cream

SWD48	1 and 5 kg containers
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Storage

For optimum shelf-life, the ideal storage temperature of all stencil decoating and mesh stain removal products is between 2°C and 25°C. Storage below 25°C is especially important for Antistain/Antistain Ultra. If stored above this temperature, product performance can rapidly degrade.

Safety and Handling

Strip Powder, Strip LA and Liquid, Antistain Gel XL, Antistain Paste, Antistain/Antistain Ultra, Antistain Cream and Screen Gel Clear:

- Are formulated to be free from any (toxic) carcinogenic, mutagenic or reprotoxic chemicals.

Strip Powder, Strip LA and Liquid, Antistain Paste and Antistain/Antistain Ultra:

- Do not have a flashpoint and are therefore exempt from the Highly Flammable Liquid Regulations.

Comprehensive information on the safety and handling of these products is given in the appropriate Sericol Safety Data Sheets, available upon request.

Stencil Decoating & Mesh Stain Removal Products

Environmental Data

Antistain Gel XL, Antistain Paste, Antistain Ultra, Antistain Cream and ScreenGel Clear:

- Do not contain ozone depleting chemicals as described in the Montreal Convention.
- Are formulated free from aromatic hydrocarbons which are known to have an adverse effect on the environment.
- Are readily biodegradable as determined by the OECD 301D Closed Bottle Test.

Strip Powder, Strip LA and Liquid:

- Do not contain ozone depleting chemicals as described in the Montreal Convention.
- Are water-based and therefore considerably reduce any adverse effect of solvents on the environment.

Strip Powder has a pH of	6.0-8.0
Strip Liquid	1.0
Strip LA	2.4
Antistain Gel XL	14.0
Antistain Paste	14.0
Antistain	12.9
Antistain Ultra	13.6

The information and recommendations contained in this Product Information sheet, as well as technical advice otherwise given by representatives of our Company, whether verbally or in writing, are based on our present knowledge and believed to be accurate. However, no guarantee regarding their accuracy is given as we cannot cover or anticipate every possible application of our products and because manufacturing methods, printing stocks and other materials vary. For the same reason our products are sold without warranty and on condition that users shall make their own tests to satisfy themselves that they will meet fully their particular requirements. Our policy of continuous product improvement might make some of the information contained in this Product Information sheet out of date and users are requested to ensure that they follow current recommendations.

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