REFILLABLE CARTRIDGE SYSTEM FOR THE EPSON STYLUS PRO 7880 & 9880

Thank you for purchasing an Ink2image bulk ink feed system. You have just taken the first step to enjoying the cost saving and superior performance benefits of using Ink2image bulk ink. Ink2image bulk ink feed systems are simple to install, easy to use, and will provide you with many hours of trouble free and lower cost printing. However, the successful use of the system is dependent on how accurately you follow this guide during installation. Please read these instructions and familiarize yourself with the system components before you start the installation. Please also remember that you are now about to start working with bulk ink instead of sealed cartridges. During installation, protect the area around your printer in case of ink spillage and wear the disposable gloves included with the kit. Have a roll of paper towel handy. Remember, accidents can happen!

SYSTEM COMPONENTS

1. Refillable Cartridges (8).
2. Disposable gloves.
3. Chip resetter.
4.10 ml priming syringe with end adaptor.
5. Filling funnels.
6. Instruction CD or printer instructions.
7. 30 ml pressure test syringe with yellow end adaptor.

Note: The Epson Pro 7880 and 9880 unfortunately have a firmware setting built in that detects any non–Epson cartridges and issues two warnings on the printer display. The operator has to agree with these warnings before the cartridges can be used. This firmware setting can't be removed or changed. The process of agreeing with these warnings is as follows.

When you install a non-Epson cartridge in the printer and push down the cartridge locking levers, the display will show a 'Non genuine Cartridge' warning and will ask you to agree with this warning. Press the left arrow key to do so. The display will then show another warning message about warranties and press the left arrow key again to 'accept' this warning. After a few seconds the display will say 'READY' with the cartridge level indicators grayed out. The cartridges are now able to be used.

Unfortunately, cartridge ink levels are not shown on the printer display or in the driver software when using non-Epson cartridges on the Epson Pro 7880 and 9880. However, the inks levels are still monitored by the printer and will stop the machine before a cartridge runs dry – the display will read 'REPLACE INK CART'. When this happens, simply lifting the cartridge locking levers and pushing them back down will indicate which cartridge is empty.

STEP 1

Before starting the installation, print a good nozzle check print using the existing inks installed on your printer. Write the date on the print and keep it. No warranty claim regarding the bulk ink feed system will be accepted unless it is supported by a good nozzle check print produced before the system was installed. The utility for producing a nozzle check print can be found under the 'Maintenance' or 'Utilities' tab of the Epson print driver software supplied with your printer.

STEP 2

If you are currently using original Epson Ultrachrome K3 inks in the printer and are about to install Cave Paint Elite Enhanced, Cave Paint Photochrome V4 inks, or Media Street by Ink2image Generations G10 inks in the refillable cartridges, then proceed to step 3. If you are currently using a different ink type, or intend to install a different Ink2image ink than the three mentioned above, it is a good idea to flush out your printer before installing the system. Otherwise, you will waste a lot of time and ink purging through one ink type to another, or potentially clog your printer. Ink2image supplies Dead head cleaning fluid in bulk bottles for the purpose of flushing the printer and this can be obtained from your local Ink2image supplier.

If you are in doubt about the need to flush your printer, then contact your local supplier or e-mail Ink2image at inquries@ink2image.com. Ink2image will not be held responsible for problems caused by the incompatibility of different ink types.

If you do need to flush out your printer, then fill each refillable cartridge with about 1" of Dead Head cleaning fluid and perform an initial fill routine as outlined in the 'Installing all cartridges at once' section below. Ideally let the printer 'soak' overnight to allow the cleaning fluid to dissolve any dried ink deposits. Remove the refillable cartridges and return any remaining cleaner in the cartridges to the cleaning fluid bottle by pouring the fluid out through the cartridge filling hole. Fill the cartridges with the new ink, and perform another initial fill routine to prime the ink system with ink.

STEP 3 – FILLING THE CARTRIDGES

Decide if you are going to install all the refillable cartridges at once, or if you are going to install individual cartridges one at a time as the standard cartridges are used up. The process for installing all cartridges at once is simpler than installing individually. Avoid touching the chips on the cartridges during the filling process, and avoid tipping the cartridges over – always try and keep the cartridges in the same horizontal position that they are when installed in the printer.

Firstly, familiarize yourself with the orange rubber stopper on the back surface of each cartridge. This stopper covers the air pressurization port on the cartridges, and the stopper must be in place during cartridge filling/refilling. This is very important as filling a cartridge without the stopper in place can result in ink getting into the air pressure system on the printer.

Fill the cartridges that you are going to install at this point. To do this, place each cartridge on a flat surface. If you are concerned about spilling ink then place a few layers of paper towel under the cartridge. Remove the bung from the ink filling hole on top of the cartridge. Place a clean filling funnel into the filling hole, as in this picture. Before pouring ink into the cartridge, double check that you are filling the correct color cartridge with the correct ink color. Slowly poor ink into the funnel and fill the cartridge to within 1" (2 cm) of the top. Remove the funnel and put the bung back into the filling hole. Wash out the funnel with water under a faucet, dry the funnel with paper towel, and store in a clean, safe place for use the next time you need to refill. Repeat the filling process with each cartridge in turn using a clean funnel for each cartridge and ensuring you fill the correct color ink into the correct color cartridge.

It is advisable to perform a quick pressure test on a refillable cartridge after every refill to test the integrity of the cartridge's internal damper system.

To perform the test, remove the orange stopper from the air pressure connector. Take a 30 ml syringe with yellow end adaptor fitted and push the yellow adaptor over the air pressure connection nipple, as in this picture.

Draw the syringe plunger all the way out to remove 30 ml or so of air from the cartridge. Hold the plunger fully out for a few seconds. If no ink appears in the syringe then the cartridge is good. The syringe with adaptor can be removed from the nipple, and the orange stopper can be replaced on the air pressure connector.

If any ink appears in the syringe during the pressure test, then the cartridge is faulty and should not be installed in a printer. The ink in the cartridge can be saved by pouring it out through the cartridge filling hole. Replacement cartridges are available from the supplier where the kit was purchased.

Once you have filled all the cartridges you intend to install, proceed to the next section depending on whether you are installing all the refillable cartridges at once, or are installing cartridges individually.

INSTALLING ALL CARTRIDGES AT ONCE ON AN EPSON 7880/9880

The Epson 7880/9880 has a useful built in feature that makes the printer prime itself with ink. This is called the 'Initial fill' routine. This routine is accessible by turning on your printer in the self test mode.

Firstly, make sure that your printer is turned off and remove all the existing cartridges from the machine. One at a time, take each filled refillable cartridge, remove the orange rubber stopper from the end of the cartridge (as in this picture), and insert the cartridge into the correct color slot on the printer just as you would a normal cartridge. Keep the orange stopper safe as you will need it next time you need to refill the cartridge. When you have inserted all the refillable cartridges into the appropriate slots, lower the cartridge locking levers as normal.

To set the printer to perform an initial fill routine, follow this procedure:-

1. Press and hold the "Down", "Right" and "Enter" buttons and then press the power on button.
2. After the printer powers up, release the "Down", "Right" and "Enter" buttons. Display should show that you are in Self Test mode.
3. Using the "Down" button, navigate to the "Parameter" menu, and press the "Right" button.
4. Using the "Down" button, navigate to the "Update" menu, and press the "Right" button.
5. Using the "Down" button, navigate to "InkParameter", and press the "Right" button.

Note: The printer will always display "SET". This does not mean that the Initial fill routine is set.

Using the "Down" button, change the displayed value to "Set" and press the "Enter" button to TURN ON the Initial fill routine.

The printer will display "Update Param?".

Press the "Enter' button.

Turn the printer off by pressing the power button.

Turn the printer back on and, after the printer has powered up, the display will show a warning that it is about to perform an ink fill, and that you need to press the pause button to start this routine. Press the pause button to initiate filling. This will take about eight minutes and you will need to stay by the machine as the cartridge locking levers will need to be lifted up and down a couple of times during the filling process – the display will prompt you when to do this. After the initial fill routine has finished and the display reads 'ready', perform nozzle check prints and cleanings using the utilities section of the printer driver software until you get a good nozzle check print. The printer is now ready to use.

INSTALLING CARTRIDGES INDIVIDUALY ON AN EPSON 7880/9880

If you decide to install the refillable cartridges one at a time so existing standard cartridges can be used up, you will need to extract a small amount of air from each refillable cartridge that gets trapped during the initial filling process before you first install the cartridge in the printer. Failure to do this will mean that this trapped air will eventually make its way to the print head and cause some nozzle drop outs during printing. To remove this trapped air, take the priming syringe with end adaptor fitted and gently insert the syringe through the rubber seal in the ink exit valve at the front of a cartridge, as in this picture. Remove the orange stopper from the air port on the back of the cartridge and gently pull on the syringe plunger until a small amount of ink is sucked into the syringe. Replace the orange stopper over the air port and remove the syringe from the ink exit hole. Any ink in the syringe can be returned to the ink bottle of the appropriate color. Wash the syringe out with water under a faucet. Repeat this process with each cartridge you intend to install at this point, remembering to wash out the syringe between colors so that no cross contamination of colors can occur.

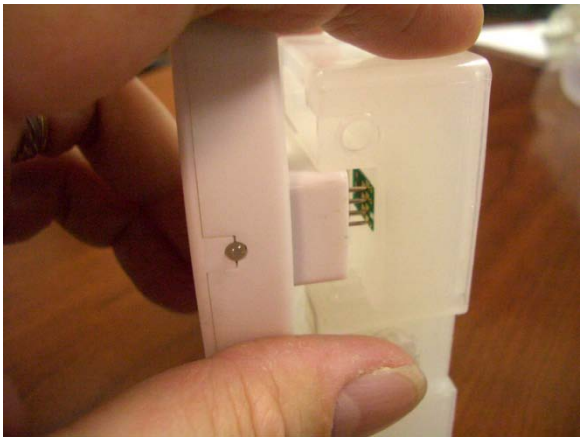
Once you have removed the air from all the cartridges, install the cartridge or cartridges into the printer just as you would with normal cartridges. **Remember to remove the orange stopper from the air port on each cartridge as you install them, as in this picture**. The printer is now ready to be used. Please note that this process of using a syringe to remove air is not required when installing all the cartridges at one time – the machine's initial fill routine as described in the previous sections will automatically remove the trapped air.

REFILLING THE CARTRIDGES AND RESETTING THE CHIPS

Cartridges should be refilled before the ink levels get to within 1" (2 cm) of the bottom of the cartridge. Before refilling a cartridge or cartridges, always turn off your printer and wait 30 seconds for the pressure in the printer's air system to dissipate. It is best to work on one cartridge at a time to reduce the risk of putting the wrong color ink in the wrong color cartridge.

Remove the cartridge from the printer and **immediately push an orange stopper over the air port on the back of the cartridge.**

Next, reset the chip on the cartridge so that the cartridge reads full again after it has been refilled. To reset a cartridge chip, line up the seven pins on the chip resetter with the seven gold contacts on the cartridge chip as in this picture. Gently push the resetter onto the chip (the pins are spring loaded). If the pins on the resetter are lined up correctly with the gold pads then the light on the resetter will flash red for a few seconds and then turn green. The green light indicates that the chip has been successfully reset to full.



Finally, remove the bung from the ink filling hole on top of the cartridge. Place a clean filling funnel into the filling hole, as in this picture. Before pouring ink into the cartridge, double check that you are filling the correct color cartridge with the correct ink color. Slowly poor ink into the funnel and fill the cartridge to within 1” (2 cm) of the top. Remove the funnel and put the bung back into the filling hole. Wash out the funnel with water under a faucet, dry the funnel with paper towel, and store in a clean, safe place for use the next time you need to refill. Re-install the filled cartridge back into the printer remembering to remove the orange stopper from the air port before you insert the cartridge into the printer. Repeat the refilling process with each cartridge in turn using a clean funnel for each cartridge and ensuring you fill the correct color ink into the correct color cartridge.

<u>After refilling a cartridge, always perform the pressure test described in Step 3 above.</u>

USER TIPS

The use of an Ink2image refillable cartridge system is very simple as long as you remember these important points:-

1. Top up the cartridges regularly with ink. Be aware that certain colors will be used more quickly than others depending on what type of printing you do. For instance, the black ink will be used quicker than the other colors if you print a lot of text. Or, if you print mainly photos, then the light cyan and light magenta will run down first. Never let the ink levels drop below ½" (1 cm) from the bottom of the cartridge and don't fill higher than ½" (1 cm) from the top of cartridge.

2. If you do accidently let a cartridge run dry, refill the cartridge as described above and then perform two to three power cleans to re-prime the printer's ink system with ink. Unfortunately, this will waste ink of the other colors but there is no way round this. It is best to check ink levels regularly and not let a cartridge run dry.

3. When you have finished printing, always turn your printer off.

4. Always try and use your printer at least once a week, even if you only print one small color print. This will keep the ink fresh in the printer's print heads and reduce the chance of clogging or drying out of the inks. If you are not going to use your printer for more than four weeks, then we recommend removing the ink from the cartridges and flushing the printer with cleaning fluid.

5. The ink cartridge chips can fail from time to time. A failed chip will show up as an 'Install cartridge' message on the printer display. If this happens, then the cartridge will need to be replaced and spare refillable cartridges are available from Ink2image. Replacing the cartridge is simple – just follow the 'Installing cartridges individually' section above. You may want to consider keeping a spare set of refillable cartridges on hand if your printer is used in a production environment where down time is critical.

   Apart from these points, you should use your printer just as you would with normal cartridges and, as long as you follow these simple guidelines, you will enjoy trouble free and cost saving printing.

If you require technical assistance or support with your Ink2image refillable cartridge system, please initially contact the store or dealer where the system was purchased. All Ink2image dealers are well trained in the operation of the system and can help with most problems. Alternatively, contact Ink2image technical support on 1-800-443-9508 or 847-827-0747, or at inquiries@ink2image.com.

30 DAY GUARANTEE TO REPLACE DEFECTIVE PARTS

Ink2image guarantees all parts are defect-free for a period of 30 days from the date that you receive your new Ink2image refillable cartridge system. If you have received a defective part, please initially contact the retailer or dealer from where the system was purchased.

DISCLAIMER

Because Ink2image refillable cartridges are self installed by the user, Ink2image is not responsible for any damages to your printer, whether they are or are not related to the Ink2image refillable cartridge system. Please contact the store or dealer where the printer was purchased, or the printer manufacturer for any problems or questions related to the printer and its operation.

If the Customer chooses to use ink in the system from another manufacturer other than Ink2image, and is not satisfied with the ink, or it clogs the printer or the bulk feed system, it will be the Customers responsibility to pay for the parts to repair the system and restore it to normal usage. We can only guarantee that the Ink2image refillable cartridge system will deliver Ink2image ink just as well as a normal ink cartridge. We will not accept returns of used systems, or systems filled with third party ink that the customer later decides does not meet their specific needs**.**