

HP goes greener with wine box enabled Large Format Printers

2nd February 2021: Well, maybe not quite! But using wine boxes as ink tanks in large format printers provides a significant eco-advantage by removing almost all the plastic from the printer consumables, thus meeting the demand in the user base for more sustainable products.

A first in the industry, 1 litre and 3 litre (depending on the colour if ink in question) ink bags are now encased in a cardboard box in exactly the same way that wine is sold in plastic bags encased in a card box. The only hard plastic required is the connection interface between the bag and the printer.



In actual fact, the base technology is not entirely new – it is the encasing of the ink bag in a cardboard box that is new. Those of us who have a few print head passes under our belts and glasses of wine through our livers may remember ink cartridges like the HP 82 series, which had a foil bag inside the plastic cartridge.

Advantages?

- Greatly reduced use of plastic - HP Eco Carton cartridges reduce plastic use by 80%
- Reduced carbon emissions - HP Eco Carton cartridges reduce emissions by 60%
- Easily recyclable:
 - the card box is recycled alongside all other cardboard waste in the organisation
 - the ink bag and plastic interface are recycled through HP's existing Planet Partners recycling programme.



Clearly this technology is most ideally suited to HP's Large Format printers. The new models in question are the new Latex 700 and 800 series, announced yesterday. And, even better, the Latex 700 and 800 series offer white wine ... I mean ink ... for the first time, claimed to be the whitest ink on the market with no discoloration over time. Also contributing to environmental responsibility is that the latex inks are water-based, being kinder to the environment and meaning that any ink waste or recycling of printed materials are not as toxic to the environment.

So:

- card boxes containing ink bags definitely a good move by HP
- we look forward to seeing the technology scaled to desktop/office applications

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