

Subject: Sustainability, Safety and Ecological Fields - Xeikon
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Xeikon hereby declares its commitment to the principles of Sustainability, Safety, and Ecology, with a strong focus on the Do Not Significantly Harm (DNSH) framework, encompassing six key environmental objectives as outlined below:

1. Climate change mitigation

Xeikon is using a complete VOC free printing system that uses no solvents at all during the making of the toner or during the printing.

To lower the carbon footprint of our EP technology, Xeikon has successfully integrated up to 60% recycled PET in their QB-I/IC/CH/E toner resin. The recycled PET originates from collected, washed and grinded clear PET bottles which are suitable to make new drinking bottles. The new rPET containing toner resin is chemically identical to the completely fossil based resin, the quality and performance of the toner are therefore not impacted by this sustainable improvement.

Our Idera WB IJ inks and primers were specifically designed to contain only bio-based humectants.

Xeikon investigated the most sustainable way forward for the use of our PE toner bottles. This study found that switching to paper based bottles, did not fulfill the technical requirements necessary to contain the toner. Therefore, the toner bottles remained in PE material, but several other sustainable measures were implemented. The carbon footprint was calculated for the reuse of the PE toner bottles, concluding that bottles in a radius of 500km from the toner production plant could be returned (taking into account the return transportation). Xeikon also invented a new cleaning tool to decap the PP cap and thoroughly vacuum the bottles so the PE bottles can be recycled through the local PE recycling stream. Xeikon is also making the first field tests with toner bottles which include recycled PE into the PE toner bottles.

Since 2009 all operations in Belgium are using 100 % renewable electricity and all heat generated by the making of the pressurized air to mill the toner is reused for heating the building and other heat demanding processes. We also are working on a carbon footprint calculator to support our customers in providing insights in their printing process and the aspects where they can improve their carbon footprint.

2. Climate change adaptation

Refer to point 1

3. Sustainable use & protection of water & marine resources

No liquid waste is created and due to the nature of digital printing, you only print what is needed, when it is needed.

Printing to (not used) stock is minimized. No setup, no printing plates, no ink waste or liquid cleaning before, during and after the digital printing.

The composition of the toners is as such that they can be used for any kind of indirect food packaging labelling, which has been proven by many migration tests done by certified independent laboratories. (E.g. SQTS or Intertek)

4. Pollution prevention & control

Toners are safe in use and can be simply cleaned by a vacuum system. Since no hazardous chemicals or solvents are used (no hazard symbols are on the toner bottles).

5. Transition to a circular economy

All the printed paper material of Xeikon can be recycled. The paper material printed with non Titon toner can be deinked as well. All labels or packaging material printed on PP/PE or polyester can be deinked. Xeikon deploys a program to use recycled PET in the resin material for new toner and is looking into reuse of drums and toner bottles.

There is a REX program in place that gives used digital printing machines a second or third life. In most cases new inventions or upgrades can be implemented in the installed base to extend the lifetime of the machines.

6. Protection and restoration of biodiversity & ecosystems

All the consumables of the dry toner machines do not contain hazardous materials or heavy metals. No SVHC or CMR products are used or present. Toners have been tested towards a potential effect on marine life (algae and fish) and there was no effect (although it is not foreseen that our toners would end up in the marine environment, but some labels can be immersed in water during their application time).

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