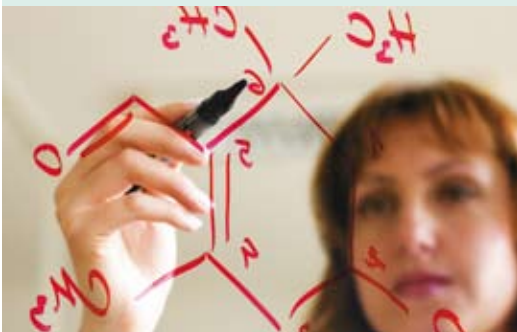


Xaar Approved Inks



Xaar thoroughly tests inks to ensure optimum print performance and printhead life.

INKS

Xaar partners with leading ink manufacturers to develop high quality ink and specialised fluid solutions for its printheads. For a complete list of our current approved inks and ink partners, please visit our website www.xaar.com/inks.

OPTIMISING PERFORMANCE

Xaar works in partnership to develop and approve the widest range of compatible inkjet inks. A broad range of inks and specialist fluid solutions are available, which offer high performance when used in conjunction with the appropriate Xaar printheads. Whether your ink requirements are solvent, aqueous, oil-based or UV-curable, or of a more specialised nature, Xaar offers choice, flexibility and service.



XAAR[®]



The Open Ink/Fluid Approval Scheme consists of the following test procedures:

MATERIALS COMPATIBILITY/ LIFETIME TESTING

- ⇒ Accelerated materials compatibility testing, designed to check the effect of the fluid on the printhead construction materials and also the effect of the printhead materials on the fluid.
- ⇒ Printhead lifetime testing equivalent to one year of typical usage.

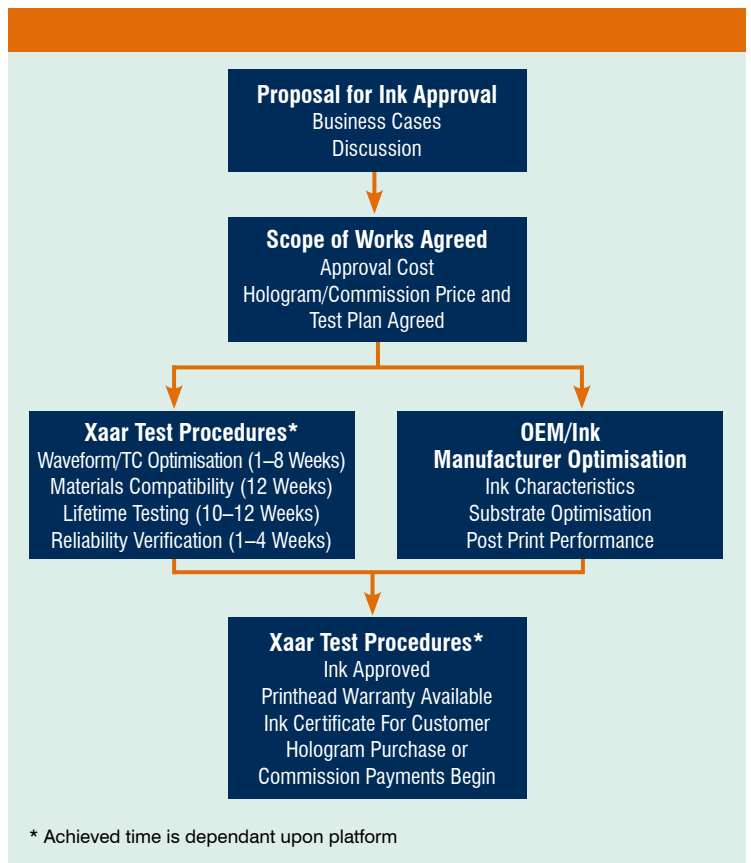
PRINTHEAD OPTIMISATION

- ⇒ Development of a waveform and temperature compensation curve for the fluid/printhead combination to maximise performance.
- ⇒ Drop velocity measurement.

RELIABILITY TESTING

- ⇒ Print verification of the fluid performance using the optimised waveform/TC curve.
- ⇒ Drop volume measurement.
- ⇒ Print speed/firing frequency measurement.

During this process, the Ink Manufacturer and OEM work in partnership with Xaar to ensure the finished ink meets all the application requirements.



Successful completion of all the tests gives the ink/fluid 'Xaar Approved Ink' status.

There are significant costs associated with the testing of fluids in order to grant Approval status. In line with industry practise, Xaar recovers these costs through an initial contribution towards the testing process and then subsequent contributions via commission for UV, aqueous or oil-based inks, or via the hologram purchase scheme for solvent inks.

The charges for the ink/fluid approval covers the following costs:

- ⇒ Guidance from Xaar chemists on the optimal formulation characteristics.
- ⇒ Optimisation of the ink/fluid performance in the printhead.
- ⇒ Extensive lifetime testing and materials analysis to ensure the long-term compatibility of inks/fluids and printheads.
- ⇒ Printhead warranty.

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