



**MIRAGE INKS**  
 MANUFACTURERS OF FLEXOGRAPHIC  
 & GRAVURE PRINTING INKS

**AQUACLAVE**  
**PROCESS INDICATOR INK**

**(Prefix ACW)**

**DESCRIPTION**

A water based autoclave process indicator ink which will give a permanent colour change after steam sterilisation.  
 The ink is supplied as a two-pot system to extend the shelf life.

**TYPICAL PROPERTIES**

Formulated to be lightfast to B.W.S. 6 before sterilising.  
 Lightfast to B.W.S. 8 after sterilising.  
 Contains no lead compounds.  
 Suitable for 121°C 16 minute autoclave sterilisation cycles.  
 There is little to no change in colour with dry heat cycles.

The Aquaclave ink system has been independently certified & tested in accordance with AAMI/ANSI/ISO 11140-1:2005 for process requirements of a Class 1 Steam Process Indicator.

**SUBSTRATES**

The Aquaclave ink has been formulated primarily for paper and board materials.

**REDUCERS**

Water.  
 If the ink dries too quickly then retarders can be provided.  
 NB: Care should be taken in the use of retarders as they may lead to set-off in the reel and reduced water resistance.

**COLOURS**

After processing through a steam sterilisation cycle there is a permanent colour change from light pink to dark brown.

Note:

The ink is supplied as a two-pot system i.e. Part A and part B, blended 2 parts A to 1 part B.  
 Once product is blended the unused ink will gradually darken over a 3-week period.

**QUALITY ASSURANCE**

Products with the prefix and product name specified above are Quality Controlled to Mirage Inks Test Specification No26 as described in the test manual. Details of all tests are available on request from our technical department.

\*When printed product is stored under humid/damp conditions and above room temperature, the printed product is unstable and undergoes a colour change (pink to brown). Higher storage temperature will accelerate the change.

For example, this occurs within a week at 40°C.

Therefore, following these results the stability of printed product under tropical conditions cannot be guaranteed.

When stored at <25°C at 50%RH, the printed product is stable for at least 12 months.

*Mirage Inks Ltd liability and responsibility for these inks passes to the customer at point of delivery.*

The information given above is supplied as a guide only with the properties achieved under laboratory conditions. Mirage Inks Limited strongly recommends that you satisfy yourself as to the suitability of the product with trials. Please consult our laboratory to discuss any different requirement.

As particular conditions of use and variations in quality of materials and substrates being used are outside Mirage Inks control it is therefore not possible to guarantee the performance of our products.

Products supplied under this ink name / prefix, are best used within a four month period from the date of manufacture (as specified on the product label).

In-line with Mirage Inks Ltd ISO 9001:2015 procedures, retained batch samples for any product supplied under this ink name / prefix, are retained & stored at room temperature for a period of four months from the date of manufacture.

Should the product be used outside of this four month period, Mirage Inks Ltd. have no reference sample for comparative & test purposes, so cannot investigate or be held responsible for any print related problems.