Extended Media with the AnaJet Direct-to-Garment Printer

Hosted by AnaJet Applications Manager,
Paul Green

The presentation will begin shortly…

Extended Media with the AnaJet Direct-to-Garment Printer

AnaJet Extended Media Package

AnaJet is happy to bring you the latest in new applications for your direct-to-garment printer, Extended Media! This application now allows you to print on surfaces like wood, glass, metal and many other items. The AnaJet Extended media package includes everything you will need to begin printing, giving you more products to offer your customer.

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How it Works

Printing onto surfaces like wood, glass and metal is actually a very simple process. The main key to this application is an ink jet receptive coating that is applied to the surface before printing. The coating is available in clear and a matte white finish.

When the coating has dried you can print your graphic onto the desired surface. Keep in mind that whatever you print on needs to fit under the printhead and is within our printable table area.

Once the print is complete we need to make sure it is protected. A UV clear coat is then applied over the print with an aerosol spray. This will protect the print from the sun, rubbing off, water and also add a gloss finish.

Here is an example, this is a wooded clock we made. The round wooded surface was coated with matte white coating and then printed with the AnaJet. After the clear finish dried we added the clock hands and numbers. All of the Items we used can be found at local craft stores

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Examples of Extended Media

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What you Need

The AnaJet Extended Media starter package comes with everything you will need for this application. All the products included in the package are also available for sale individually.

- **AnaJet Extended Media Ink Jet Receptive Coating Clear**
- **AnaJet Extended Media Ink Jet Receptive Coating Matte White**
- **UV Protecting Solvent Clear Coating, Gloss**
- **Foam Brush Set**

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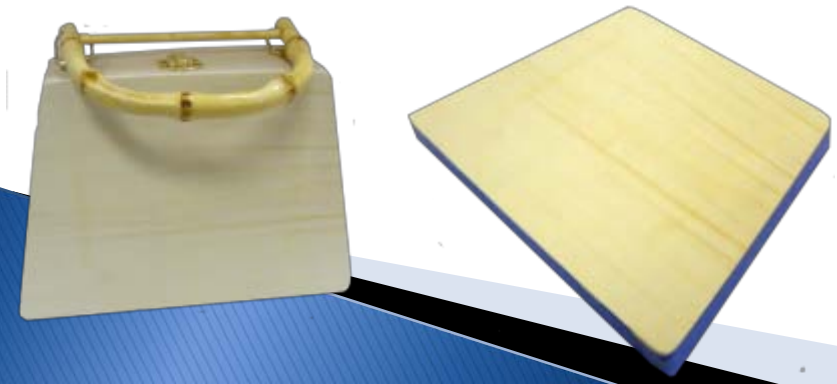
How To, Step 1: Coating

- The first step in this process is to coat the surface we are going to print on. Pour some of the coating into a small clean bowl or container wide enough for the foam brush you will be using.

- For this example we will be using the matt white ink jet receptive coating. Clear is used when you print onto glass or metal and don't want to have a white background. The print we are going to do is onto the lid of a wooded box handbag. Keep in mind this process is the same for all printing, glass, wood, metal, etc. The Lid was removed from the box to allow better clearance for the printhead. If you are printing on something thick like the box lid we are using, mask the sides with tape so you don't get coating or printing on the sides.

- Once the coating has dried it is a good idea to do a second coat to make sure you have full coverage. Brush in one direction and try and get the coating as smooth as possible.



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How To, Step 2: Graphic set up

- For the graphic example we are going to print the graphic below onto the lid of the wooden box that has just been coated.

- In this case the graphic was created to be a full bleed print on the cover. If you are going to do this make you graphic just a little bigger on the outside edges, this will make sure we have full coverage when printed.

- Before you adjust you table height, tape a sheet of paper onto the print table. Print the graphic onto the paper using a light weight ink drop size and the ink level set to 1. By doing this we now have a template to help place the print were it is needed.

Graphic used for print

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How To, Step 3: Print Table Height

- Once you have placed the item to be printed in the right position you will need to adjust the print table height. The safest way to do this is to place your table height gauge on top of the item you will be printing on and lower the table until it fits properly under the chrome carriage bar.

- Another way this can be done is to release the printhead from its maintenance station and move it to the center of the carriage bar. Lower the print table all the way down and push the printable item under the Printhead. Slowly move the table up and watch the clearance between it and the printhead. You will need an absolute minimum of 1/8”. Also move the table in and out slowly to make sure it will clear.

Be very careful if you use this method as you never want the printhead to touch the item you are printing on, take your time!

Warning – Avertissement
警告 - Advertensia
Warnung – редупреждение
- 경고

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How to, Step 4: Print Settings

It is now time to print onto the surface of our media. Printing on these types of surfaces do not require very much ink. The following settings are suggested for certain surface types from EK Print Studio

WOOD: Light drop size, Ink level 1 and color mode standard or neutral. If your are using a SPRINT set your quality to super fine. If you are using an FP-125 you will want to use an ink level of 2.

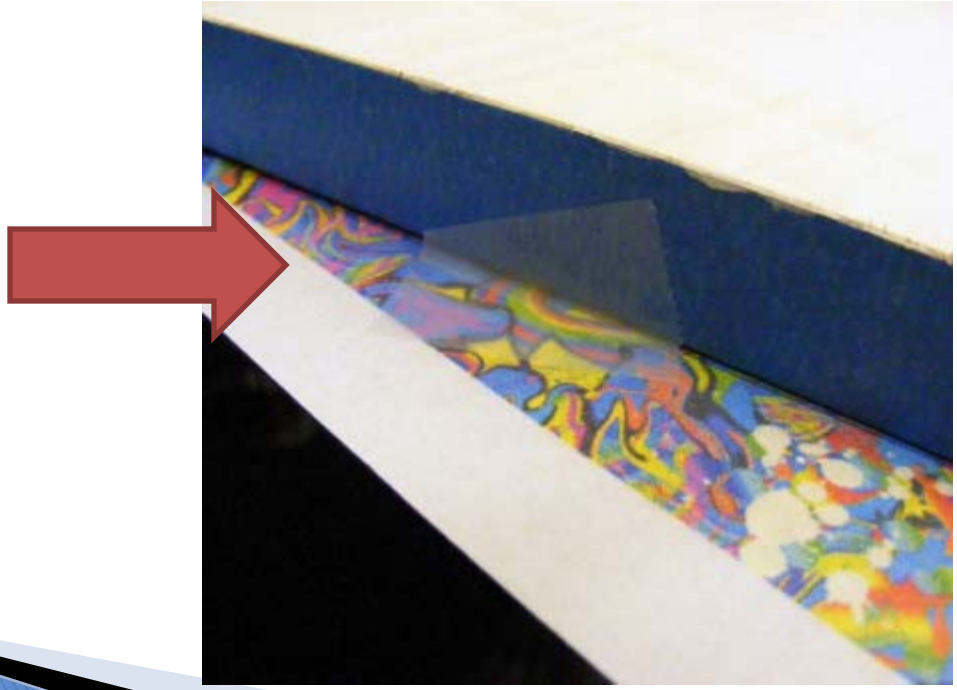
Glass and Metal: Light drop size, Ink level 2 and color mode standard or neutral. If you are using a Sprint set your quality to super fine. If you are using an FP-125 you will want to use an Ink level of 3.

Other Surfaces: When working on any other surfaces you will always want to start with a test print. It is always best to start with a light 1 setting and then determine if you need and extra pass.

How to, Step 5: Print

To make sure the surface you are going to print on stays in position add a few small pieces of tape to the edges. If the printable item is heavy enough you will not need to do this. Items like glass would be a good example.

And now it's the moment we have all been waiting for……..press print!



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Our wood has now been printed on. If your print looks to light you can do a second pass using a light drop with a single pass. Let the ink dry for about 5 minutes.

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How to, Step 6: Clear Coating

The final process in this application is to clear coat and protect your print. First of all and most importantly, make sure you have a well ventilated area to do this. The coating supplied by AnaJet is a solvent spray that adds UV protection.

You can also use a acrylic clear coat spray that can be found at most art supply or hardware stores. Please keep in mind that the solvent clear coat will be the best for making out print water proof. The ink and ink jet receptive coating are water based along with acrylic clear coat.

- Apply the clear coat evenly over the print, always start with a light coating.
- Let the first coat dry for about 15 minutes and then apply a second coat.
- Do not rush this process, thin even coats will give you the best results.

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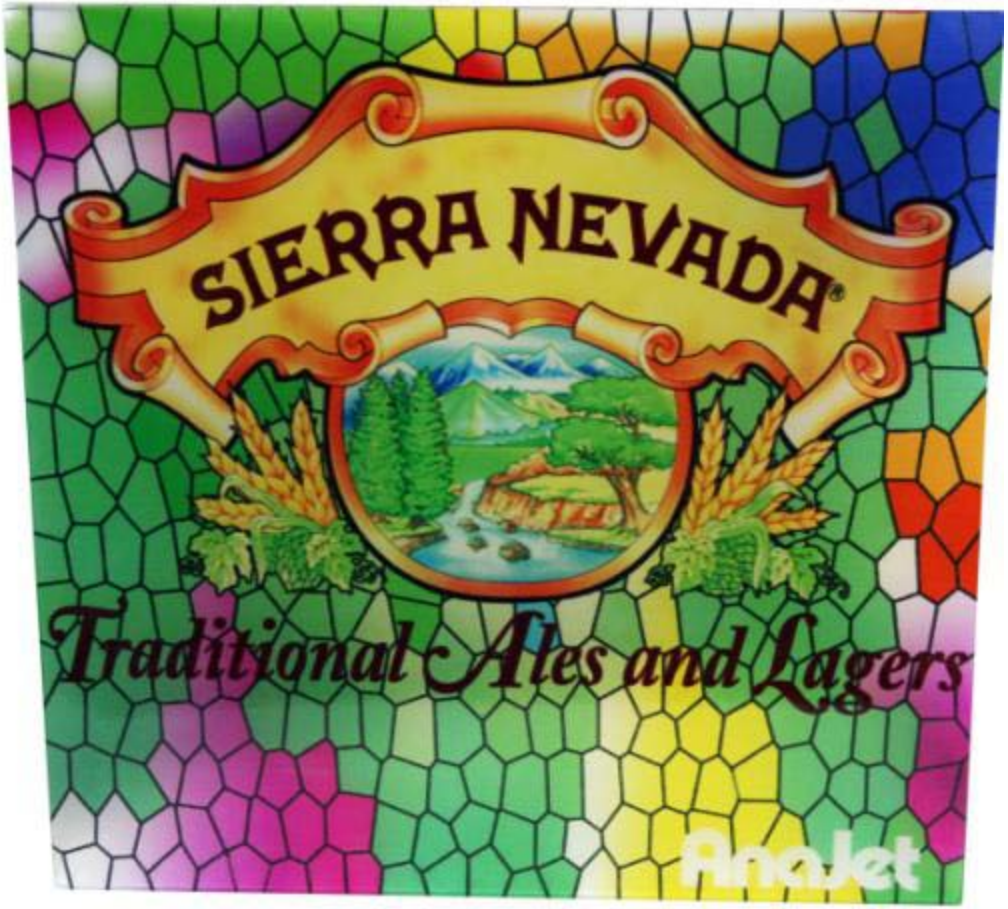
The Final Product

For this example we printed onto the lid of this box. The lid was removed to allow more clearance for the print head. The lid was put back on and we now have out final product!

Glass

The same process was used to print on this glass. The difference is clear ink jet coating was used for this.



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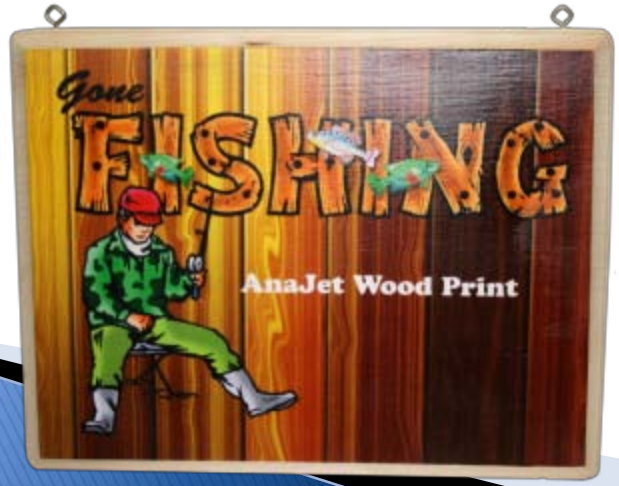
Other Examples



Imagination is the key

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Q & A

Please type your question into the Q&A area located on the bottom right side of your screen.

Please keep all questions related to content covered in this webinar

Due to the high volume of this webinar, not all questions may not be answered

Thank You for Attending!

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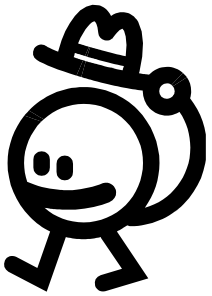
At the close of this presentation you will be given the option to complete a survey. Please tell us how we did and what else you would like to see in the future.

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