In Mould Labels
PREPRESS GUIDELINES

Plastipak

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CONTENT LIST

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1. PLASTIPAK INDUSTRIES CONTACT INFORMATION:

Plastipak Industries Inc.
150 Industrial Blvd.
Boucherville, QC
J4B 2X3 Canada
T (450) 650-2200 / 800 387-7452
F (450) 650-2201 / 866-879-1189

email: artapproval@plastipak.ca
website: www.plastipak.ca

2. GUIDELINES FOR FILE DELIVERY:

a. Standard file delivery
For standard file delivery, we ask that you send your artwork on either a CD or DVD along with a printout of the content to our Customer Service Department. The prints will be used to ensure that your files have been successfully imported into ArtPro.

Please make sure the colours used in your artwork are clearly indicated on the print supplied.

b. FTP file delivery:
Final artwork can be send by FTP. For customers wanting access to our FTP please contact your Customer Service Representative to obtain a user name and password.

3. SOFTWARE GUIDELINES:

a. Software compatibility:
Supported software for layout and native files are:
• Adobe Illustrator CS3+
• Adobe Photoshop CS3+

We recommend that you provide us with the native files for future processing or corrections. Supported File types: PDF, TIF, EPS, PSD, AI, DCS.

Please do not create PDF files from CorelDRAW / Freehand because we encounter import problems with images and gradients.

b. Additional guidelines:
Adobe Illustrator:
• Change the Document raster settings to 300 ppi and check the "Preserve Spot Colours" box
• Do not apply trapping
• Save with PDF compatibility
• Work in CMYK mode

PDF files:
For quick processing of your label, we ask you to provide a PDF for each label. Please do not provide one PDF containing all of your labels.

4. FILE GUIDELINES:
Here are some guidelines to achieve a correct reproduction of your artwork when printed. These tips are common for all applications.

a. Label Dimensions and Shapes
Starting the design of your artwork with correct label dimensions is one of the keystones for a successful IML project.

Please ask your Customer Service Representative for the correct dieline. You will receive a PDF and or EPS with annotations of Dieline, Bleed and No Text area (or copy limit). Please find below a short explanation of the above mentioned parameters.

b. Dieline
 The thin, red line is the Dieline and defines the shape of your artwork.
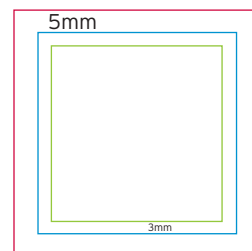
c. Bleed
• The dark grey strip outside the Dieline is the bleed. Due to the 'print-to-cut' tolerance we need excess image;
• 0.096″ (2,5mm) is enough when there is no need of warping the label.
• 0.196″ (5mm) is a minimum when the label has to be warped.
• The PDF or EPS file indicates a standard minimum bleed of 0.196″ (5mm). Please make the bleed fit for the future process of your file.
• In short, warping 0.196″ (5mm) or non-warping 0.195″ (2,5mm).

In Mould Labels

d. No Text Area or Copy Limit
- The No Text Area or Copy Limit is the light gray zone inside the Dieline.
- This zone represents an area where no text, logos and/or important label info is allowed.
- Please ensure a minimum distance of .118" - .157" (3-4mm) from the object to the dieline.
- We need this to cover our 'print-to-cut' tolerance

e. Text / Line Width
These are the minimum sizes, when text and / or line width have the below properties:

			TEXT	LINE WIDTH
1.	Positive -	Single Colour ->	6pt	.4pt
2.	Negative -	Single Colour ->	7pt	.6pt
3.	Positive -	Multiple Colours ->	7pt	.6pt
4.	Negative -	Multiple Colours->	7pt	.6pt

Live text should be converted to outlines or fonts should be subsetted. Due to legal reason we do not encourage you to deliver files with live text.

f. Images
- All images used need to be supplied at a resolution of 300 dpi (280 dpi is the absolute minimum)
- All images need to be placed in the artwork at 100%
- All images should be in CMYK mode
- Logos need to be supplied at a resolution of 2400 dpi
- Maximum of 8 colours

g. Miscellaneous
- **Barcodes:** in order to avoid any possible misreading of the printed barcode the following scaling (resizing) factor can only be applicable. (Min 80% - Max 200%). Bar Width Reduction 0.002" (0.051 mm).
- **Ink coverage:** a maximum of 270%
- Maximum of 8 colours can be used in your artwork
- Do not apply trapping (unless using Artpro and manual trap method – no automatic trapping)
- Do not apply any screening angles
- **Dot gain compensation:** please supply uncompensated files. The overall dot gain behaviour depends on different variables (eg. base foil, screening, ink ...). Therefore we apply the appropriate dot gain curve ourselves.
- **Bleed:** around the label we need to have 0.197" (5 mm) of bleed (on all sides).
- Please do not place any text / logos / important elements within 0.118" (3 mm) of the edge the label.
- The use of blendmodes / transparencies has become very popular. However some blendmodes cause problems when they are sent to a RIP - Multiply / Screen / Darken are safe to use. However, HSL blends cannot be used.

5. LABEL DIMENSIONS AND SHAPES

Using the correct label dimensions is essential for the success of a new IML project. Please request the correct dieline to import your artwork elements. For bended wrap-around labels, we will supply a flat dieline corresponding to the shape of the container.

6. COLOUR PROOF

Our label supplier has invested in a GMG colour proofing device.

The GMG colour proof is one of the standards for contract proofing. Therefore, we can obtain colour consistent proofs, which allow us to validate CMYK colours. For an exact Pantone colour reference, a separate reference proof can be supplied which is generated on the IGT unit.

7. DELIVERY OF CORRECTIONS

Plastipak is able to perform artwork and text corrections. All corrections requested must be very specific in order to avoid any possible confusion.

For text corrections we request an electronic text document with the corrections. Fax pages will only be seen as a back-up.

For text corrections with special characters, we ask you to send us a PDF/EPS/AI file where the characters have been converted to outlines.

8. ARTWORK CONTROL AT PLASTIPAK

Files supplied to Plastipak are imported into ArtPro.
The following checks are made on each file:
- Screening - Barcode
- Trapping
- Colours
- Size dieline
- Resolution
- Converting flat
- Labels into conic labels

9. DESIGN TIPS:

a. Recommended Text free areas

Please respect 0.118″ (3 mm) text free area from the edge of the dieline to ensure no information will disappear after final cutting of the labels. The labels are printed on plastic film which is elastic and causes a print-to-cut tolerance of +/- 0.060″ (1.5 mm). (image tolerance)

Please respect a text free / EAN-code free area around the injection point on the label (diameter of 0.40″-0.60″ / 1 to 1.5 cm). To know exact location of the injection point please refer to the dieline.

b. Label design with colour borders

If there is a colour border in your label design, we recommend that it be at least 0.157″(4 mm) thick (internal colour area), to compensate for the image tolerance of up to 0.060″ (1.5mm).

In Mould Labels

PREPRESS GUIDELINES
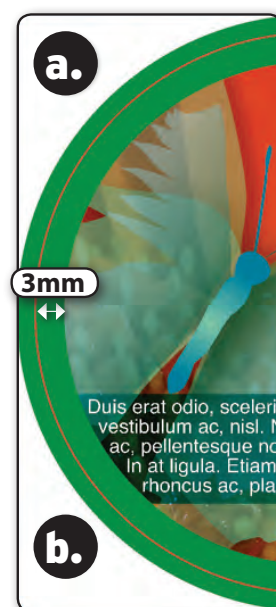
c. Colour strength on transparent labels
It is important to keep in mind that when printing on transparent film, colours will always appear less vivid / saturated than when printed on opaque film. We therefore recommend that you avoid mixing white and transparent label types on a single package. For example, we would not recommend printing a label on white film for the lid, and transparent film for the base because the colours would differ largely.

d. The matching of graphic elements at junction lines
For wrap-around or full coverage labels we strongly recommend that you not split graphic elements in at the left and right edge of the label. At the junction line, these graphic elements will never match perfectly, due to the image tolerance which can vary up to 0.060'' (1.5mm) between the edges.

If you have questions or require further information please contact your Customer Service Representative.