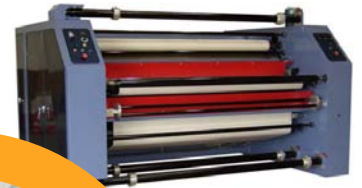




Dye Sublimation

How it's done...



Inkjet dye sublimation is a full color imaging process that uses a heat sensitive sublimation dye to print onto special inkjet paper, referred to as dye sub transfer. The dye sub transfer sheet and fabric are faced together and run through a heat press at very high temperature and pressure. The pressure and heat convert the solid dyes in the transfer sheet into a gas, immediately dyeing the fabric. When the fabric is removed from the heat press, the temperature drops and the gas reverts back to a solid state. It has now become part of the fabric; you will feel no ink coating or layer - it can be washed and you would not see any changes.

Sublimation is always done with a polyester fabric, or one with a high polyester content. Why not cotton? Because natural fiber will scorch under the required heat needed to transfer the dyes. Additionally, the dye particles are designed to bond with polyester. This also makes images and graphics more vibrant, and will last longer than a cotton/polyester blend. Sublimation is typically done on white fabric. This is because the dye colors are transparent after sublimation and need a background to be visible. White is the ideal background since it does not add a bias to the colors.



The Advantages of Dye Sublimation

- Bright, vivid colors
- Dye Sublimation has the highest print quality for printing on fabric/textiles.
- Dye sublimated textiles are very durable and can be safely laundered
- Can print larger print sizes than litho or screen presses
- Photographic quality image capability
- Very cost effective
- Portable – can easily be rolled/shipped
- Lightweight shipping and storage
- Easy to fit stands, frames, & structures
- Many fabrics to choose from

File preparation tips:

- Images should be a minimum of 75 dpi at full size.
- Colors should be called out as coated Pantone colors.
- Color matching for photos requires a guide print that we can match to.
- We recommend always having a proof made - it insures that you can be confident with your final print. Proofs are made on the same fabric of your choice.

Stella Color Fabrics include:

Act II (Firesafe)
Broadcloth
Carpet
Dacron
Eco-Knit (Firesafe)
Flag
Gaming Suede
Gloss Knit
Knit (Firesafe)
Mesh Knit
Poly Satin
Poly Silk
Poplin
Sheer
Tri Poly
Ultra Sheer