

# Cleaning **screenprinting** frames manually is out of date

✚ Screenprinting

**Screenprinting companies invest primarily in modernising their printing equipment, especially in larger and fully automated carousels – all to print faster and more.**

**More turnover means more sales and hence more profit.**

However, it is also possible to make more profit by reducing the production costs, states Frens Peters, Managing Director of Lotus Holland. “Producing the same with less cost, means bigger margins and therefore more profit. One area where savings could still be made is the cleaning of screenprinting frames. At many screenprinting companies the cleaning is still done manually, usually with volatile solvents. Very often we see that workers do not wear protective clothing, such as gloves or mouth shields, because it’s not comfortable working.”

## **Saving production costs**

“Unfortunately, when it comes to modernisation, cleaning screenprinting frames often remains overlooked. Frames can be cleaned well, manually. And which entrepreneur is planning a large investment, especially in these economically adverse times? They don’t feel under any pressure to change these bad conditions. Still, it is wise to think about automating the cleaning of screenprinting frames,” claims Peters.

“Choosing the right solution, an automatic cleaning system, gives better results than manual cleaning. This can result in savings in production costs. There are systems available that

only do a part of the cleaning process, for instance removing the emulsion. These systems are usually cheaper to buy, but do not give optimum results. Moreover, there always remains a major component, manual labour, so production costs are inherently higher.”

## **Automatic cleaning system**

Peters continues: “A fully automatic cleaning system, which removes both the ink and the emulsion, offers the best cleaning results. These systems are often more expensive to purchase, but give lowest production costs and best cleaning results. From around 5 m<sup>2</sup> cleaning per day with a fully automatic cleaning system you save on your production costs. Lotus Holland supplies fully automated cleaning systems that use 100% biodegradable, non-volatile cleaning agents. The pressure to be environmentally friendly and work in a safe way has increased. The number of printers that print with water-based inks has increased significantly. Now the search is focused on PVC-free inks. Because these detergents are not atomised under pressure, Lotus Holland cleaning systems are among the safest systems in the world.”

“Lotus Holland offers the Evo Compact especially for textile printing. With a length of only 5 m, the Lotus Evo Compact is the smallest, most cost-effective, fully automatic solution for textile printers.” ■

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26<sup>27</sup>