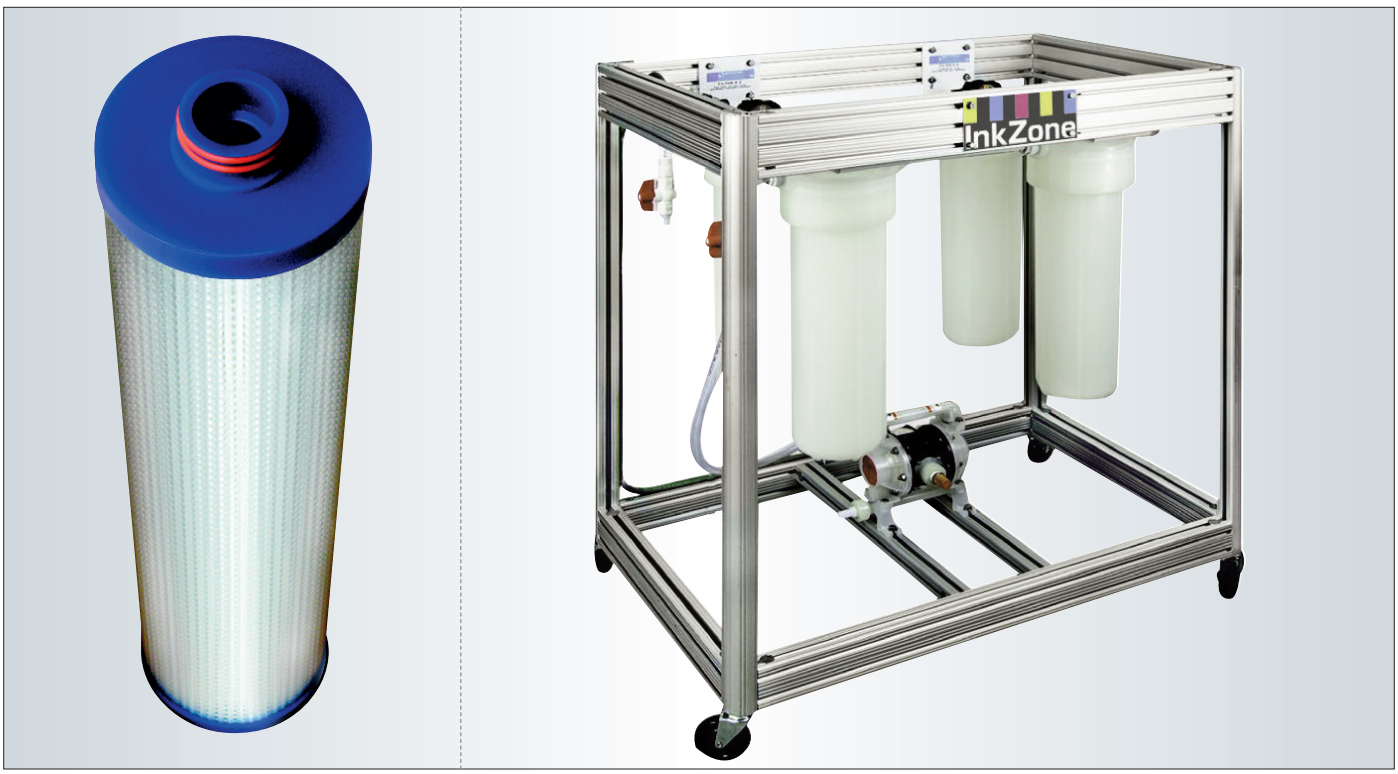
InkZone Fountain: The Clear Solution

InkZone Fountain, Digital Information's all new fountain solution purification system, utilizes powerful, advanced nanofiber technology featuring ceramic nanofibers on a micro-glass matrix, originally engineered for medical applications, to filter out particulates down to 2 nanometers. With zero discharge and zero waste of incoming water, InkZone Fountain promises highly improved production conditions and a virtually unlimited fountain solution life cycle. InkZone Fountain is an affordable, environmentally friendly solution with a fast return on investment.

Fountain solutions contaminated by ink and paper residue are the enemy of every printing pressman. Calcium, paper dust, fillers, coatings, and other residue from paper that continues to decrease in quality are particularly harmful to the process.. Until recently, process stability could only be maintained by replacing fountain solution and cleaning out the «gunk» build-up in the fountain tank on a weekly basis. Not anymore. This inefficient and time-consuming process is a thing of the past with Digital Information's all new fountain solution purification system, InkZone Fountain. Against the backdrop of increasing customer demands, elevated pressures on cost, and an industry focused on environmental stewardship, print facilities can no longer afford the expense of press downtime or unnecessary waste in terms of economic or environmental resources. With InkZone Fountain, «going green» has never been easier or more affordable.

Real, long-term stability

Digital Information's InkZone Fountain is a simple, cost-effective, and highly efficient solution. InkZone Fountain's unique four-step filter system uses nanostructured fibers to protect fountain solution from the pollution of microbiological growth by separating out micro-particles coming from inks and papers. Measurable parameters relevant to the printing process such as pH, water hardness, or electrolytic



Nanotechnology from medical applications: spin-on filters for IZ Fountain.

The fountain solution is cleansed through a set of four filters and pumped back to the offset press' tank in spotless condition.

Fast ROI with InkZone Fountain

- Simple installation; immediately effective
- Clean and odorless fountain solution free of bacteria
- Efficient purification through nanostructured ceramic filters
- Significantly reduced water and chemicals consumption is good for the environment
- Markedly extended fountain solution life cycle
- Tank and water tray maintenance rarely necessary with InkZone Fountain
- Increased readiness for production
- Markedly reduced paper waste
- Savings in resources is a requisite for any green corporate policy

Fountain solution after a production run (glass left) and the effect of three hours' purification with IZ Fountain (glass right). Cheers!

conductivity remain stable over a long period of time – in guaranteeing press productivity and production quality of the highest possible level. The offset printing environment becomes more stable and thus more economical as it is possible to considerably reduce the amount of fountain solution on the printing plates. The result – less plate wear and less plate scumming and tinting.

Cleaner fountain solution immediately achieved

The results of InkZone Fountain are astounding and immediate. Upon installation of InkZone Fountain in the pressroom, measurable results can be achieved on polluted fountain solution in just three hours. And, maintaining fountain solution cleanliness is easy. InkZone Fountain's simple Smart-Gauge indicators clearly alert press operators when filters are due for replacement.

Suited for old and new machines

InkZone Fountain is easily installed on all machines and instantly ready for operation. InkZone Fountain can be added to any sheetfed or web offset press from all established manufacturers regardless of the press size. InkZone Fountain filters are quickly and easily replaced to ensure long-term results. And, when compared against the standard systems delivered as part of the manufacturers' original installation, InkZone Fountain is far superior in terms of cleaning efficiency, ease of maintenance, and cost effectiveness rendering the original filters obsolete when replaced with Digital Information's high-performance InkZone Fountain.

Clean fountain solution: environmentally and economically friendly

The quality of the fountain solution in offset printing is defined basically by water hardness (ppm or other), pH (value without dimension), electrolytic conductivity (µs/cm) and temperature (° F / ° C). Another criterion is alcohol content (Isopropanol), which is not exactly defined and may vary depending on the print facility. The purpose of Isopropyl alcohol is mainly to reduce the water's surface tension as well as to improve the wetting of the printing plates. A welcome side effect is its cooling properties as heat is removed by evaporation. Printing without alcohol requires the use of special coverings on the dampening rollers, as well as an alcohol substitute.

Setting the parameters mentioned above is of no use if continuous purification of the fountain solution is not applied. Contaminations from inks and papers are the culprit when water hardness, pH and conductivity deviate from their target values causing the printing system to loose its equilibrium by uncontrolled process fluctuations – inferior quality of the print product with its related financial losses are the consequence.

With the introduction of InkZone Fountain it is well worth investing in continuous fountain solution purification as there is now a powerful solution available with an excellent price-performance ratio.

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