

UV Print Heads

ITNH Service Tech Tip:

There may be times when a UV print head might be difficult to recover after replacing an ink cart. In most cases, the cart is replaced between prints when the UV lamp remains on. In this case the head is parked over the flash tray to reduce exposure to the station area. This allows the ink line for that color to be vented when the cart is removed. The ink in the head is now at operating temp and might tend to bleed some from the head and in turn pull air into the injection site needle. When the new ink cart is installed, the air is trapped in the ink line and could result in head drop-outs when this air reaches the filter and print head area.

In efforts to reduce the amount of down time and ink usage to recover a print head that drops due to this introduced air, it is advisable to turn off the lamp before pulling out the old cart. When the lamp is off, the head will park over the capping station, thus providing a seal to the head, eliminating this venting affect when the old cart is removed. This should help in reducing or stopping air from entering the line at the needle. The lamp will have to cool before resuming printing, but this time could be used for manual cleaning to the head guard and cap/wiper area.

On some machines, the function "Wait Cap" may be turned OFF. In these cases, the head will remain parked over the flash tray regardless of the lamp status. The wait cap can be turned back on by going to the #SETUP menu, to WAIT CAP, change the setting to ON and enter to save. Touch the end key back to LOCAL mode. The head will then park over the station area as long as the lamp is off.

As Always the ITNH Service Department is available to answer any questions or help with any issues!