

MIRRI PRODUCTS (METPOL PRODUCTS)

HANDLING AND WARM UP GUIDE

Board Moisture and Flatness

Mirri products are sensitive to changes in humidity.

The best way to retain the original characteristics of Mirri products throughout the production steps is to retain its original moisture content. Exposure to variations in humidity will result in a change in shape and run ability. These changes can cause the Mirri board to cling and stick together. Moisture attracted to the paper backing causes a glass on glass effect with the Metpol film. Mirri is produced with an original moisture content to match a relative humidity (RH) of 50%. This is the ideal humidity content for print and run ability. Before delivery the pallets of Mirri are wrapped in a moisture proof wrapper which offers protection against moisture changes. This protection lasts as long as the wrapper is left on.

Handling and storage

It is very important to store Mirri properly as soon as it arrives. Mirri and more importantly its paperboard backing is hygroscopic and should never be exposed to humid conditions or rapid changes in humidity. Also Mirri should not be exposed to low or high temperatures.

Mirri advises the following:

- Leave the pallet wrap in place until just before you print, this preserves the original moisture content of the Mirri product
- Do not leave Mirri products outside, even under a roof
- Keep Mirri products in a room with even temperature and humidity so that it can acclimatise and warm up to the environment it will be printed.
- Avoid printing Mirri products that has not had time to rest and warm up (recommended at least 2 days and up to 4 days in higher temperatures and board Gsm)
- Do not remove the pallet wrap until the board has warmed up to the same temperature of the print or finishing room and just before it's ready to print.
- Re-wrap the Mirri product if it's not to be printed.
- We recommend RH levels of a controlled 45 to 60%

It is very important to pay attention to the warming up time. The pallet wrap should not be removed before the Mirri product has had chance to match the temperature of the print room. If unwrapped cold or kept near a cold source (air conditioning vents) the air adjacent to the Mirri product will be cooled below its dew point (point of condensation). The moisture will then be absorbed by the Mirri paper backing causing cling and feed issues (glass on glass effect with the Metpol film).

After printing

It is recommended that the Mirri product is re wrapped after printing to retain its moisture content. UV, IR or digital printing causes the temperature to rise in the stack and if not protected it can start to lose its moisture content this will help on register for further processing.