

Horizontal Print Banding

Problem	Reason	Explanation
Hairline horizontal banding (<0.5mm) or 'fuzzy' text	Poor nozzle alignment	Check the test print for each colour and run a nozzle clean if necessary. Solid colours should print solid.
Fine horizontal banding (1 - 8mm at consistent spacing)	Incorrect profile or incorrect media calibration settings	Check the profile. A function of too much ink too fast, ie: block colours on high speed settings. Check the media calibration. Try printing uni-directional, to prevent over/underlap of the ink pass resulting in consistent dark and light bands, spaced at the width of the ink pass. Exaggerated at each side of the roll when printing bi directional.
Wide horizontal banding (Approx 100 to 300mm at edges of print)	Media bruising	This appears as watermarks, generally at the edges of the roll. Caused by the media being rested on the aluminium bars (which sag and hence put more pressure at the ends) or stored on its side.
Other Horizontal banding	Printer head issues, issues with image file	Possible colour drop out.

Vertical Print Banding

Problem	Reason	Explanation
Banding along the length of the print, inconsistent solid colours	Poor heater operation or heater settings	Poor heater operation can cause variability of ink saturation across the roll. If the media is too hot then it will visibly ripple or pickup the pattern of the plinth.

For further technical support email technical@metamark.co.uk or call +44 (0)1483 571111

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