

COMPACT AND FLEXIBLE



How the Linx 10 is meeting the short run requirements of printing onto cables

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LOOKING GOOD



New laser delivers high quality codes on difficult-to-mark substrates

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DAIRY INSIGHTS



How to get the best out of batch printing in the dairy sector

See page 3.



WELCOME

With Linx's reputation for continual new product development, it's no surprise that this issue includes news of a new laser coder and another addition to our ink range. However, as is often said, the best advertising is word of mouth – so it is very pleasing that we also feature a number of case studies with positive feedback from customers on how our printers are helping their businesses.

Thank you for reading.

Padraig Finn,
Head of Sales & Service UK

SHORT AND SWEET

The compact dimensions and ease of use of the Linx 10 printer have been key factors in its installation at a bespoke electrical solutions manufacturer. Parkinson Harness Technology needed a compact and flexible coding solution to print onto its range of cables used in wiring systems for the automotive industry.

The cables, most of which have a PVC sheath, are coded and cut into various lengths in very small batches, leading to very frequent code changeovers. Parkinson Harness's previous printer involved complicated code changes, was not easy to clean or operate, and proved too large for the production line.

By comparison, the Linx 10's compact dimensions enable it to fit easily into the small space available, and the proven Linx printhead requires minimal cleaning once a month. This ensures reliable operation and

consistent good quality printed codes.

Set-up procedure is equally simple with the printer ready for use almost immediately. Fluid changeovers are easy to perform by operators, and the Linx 10 provides an onscreen prompt when this is required.



"The Linx 10 is compact, easy to use, and very quick to set up messages: perfect for frequent code changes. We never need to touch it. Our operators just started creating codes themselves: they didn't need to read a manual or be shown how to do it. Good quality print – even on small 0.5mm cable."

Clayton Smith, Maintenance Manager, Parkinson Harness

See the Linx 10 in action: www.linx.co.uk/Linx10-ParkinsonHarness

FAST AS THE SPEED OF LASER

The latest laser marking solution from Linx is able to deliver the highest quality codes on the fastest packing lines, even with traditionally difficult-to-mark substrates such as glass and PET.



The launch of the Linx CSL60 laser will enable manufacturers in markets such as beverage, food, personal care, automotive and extrusions to meet compliance requirements, while providing effective brand protection.

Up to 70,000 packs per hour can be marked, thanks to the Linx CSL60's powerful processor, while the 60W laser tube and unique Linx Visicode® system deliver consistently crisp and clear codes.

The Linx CSL60 also supports production line efficiencies to help deliver Overall Equipment Effectiveness (OEE). The availability of complete IP65 protection for the controller and

laser head means that a fully integrated system can now remain in situ during washdown to minimise downtime.

The SHC150c head option is ideal for the marking of wide web applications such as flexible packaging and outer case coding, and coding of products across multiple lines.

The Linx CSL60 is easy to install, even on lines where space is restricted, and can integrate with existing packing and labelling equipment.

To find out more, visit www.linx.co.uk/CSL60 or ask your Linx contact for a demonstration.

SERVICE PLANNING WILL KEEP YOUR LINE RUNNING

Just like a car, your Linx printers will benefit from regular servicing in order to ensure continual reliable operation.

The printers therefore have built-in prompts to provide a reminder of when a service is due within a month, and when it is overdue.

However, rather than wait for this prompt to appear on screen, we recommend that you check your printer yourself for the due date. This will enable you to book a service visit in advance, at a time to suit you, which will mean minimum disruption to your line.

How to find out when a service is due:

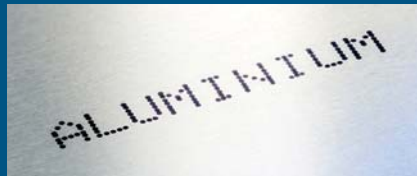
Linx 5900/7900 printers: from the Menu screen, go to Maintenance > Maintenance times. Choose from either 'Maintenance due within (hrs/mins)' or 'Maintenance due by (yyyy/mm/dd)'. The service is due by whichever occurs first – again just like a car.

Linx 8900 printers: on the Home screen, from the Menu screen (via the button top right), go to Maintenance > Maintenance Times. Choose from either 'Maintenance due within (hrs)' or 'Maintenance due by (dd/mm/yyyy)'

To book a Service visit, call our Helpdesk on 01480 302600.



Linx 8900



OILS WELL FOR NEW INK

Linx's reputation for developing inks for every type of application has been underlined by the introduction of a new formula that meets the challenges of printing codes onto oily surfaces in industrial and food markets.

Linx Black oil-penetrating ink 1062 is able to print effectively through light layers of oil or grease onto a wide range of materials, including plastics, metal, glass and waxy surfaces. Linx 1062 ink also provides good adhesion on Oriented Polypropylene (OPP) and other plastic films.

Typical applications include light engineering, automotive, aerospace, wax-coated PVC cables and all types of metal components; and canned foods and packaging film for flow wrap, pouches and bags in food sectors such as meat, bakery and confectionery.

Linx Black oil-penetrating ink 1062 is compatible with the full range of Linx 8900 printers.

EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT LASER...

The use of laser technology is all around us - from the amazing light shows at concerts right through to cutting metal or even intricate surgery. Indeed, laser is so much a part of modern life that many of us are probably unaware that the word is actually an acronym – Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation.

For the packaging industry, the advances in laser marking in recent years mean that today it is suitable for much broader applications and is able to contribute to an efficient production and packing operation. But with several different models and operating systems available, choosing the one that is best for your particular requirements can be challenging.

A new Linx White Paper will help simplify this process. 'Understanding Laser Marking Technologies' provides a valuable insight into the evolution of laser systems and their current capabilities in today's busy

production environments, enabling readers to make an informed decision in the selection of an appropriate solution.

The white paper can be downloaded at www.linx.co.uk/white-papers/laser



LINX 10 – A FLEXIBLE FRIEND

The outstanding flexibility, manoeuvrability and ease of use of the Linx 10 printer have proved ideal for the short-run production requirements of cosmetics contract manufacturer Creative Cosmetics, where frequent changeovers are required.



The Linx 10 printer is totally portable and easily moved to where it is required. For Creative Cosmetics the printer and printhead bracket are fixed to a movable cabinet, which can be wheeled between lines or repositioned on a line.

The Linx 10 is printing in all orientations on different product types and surfaces including acrylic, PET, metallised glass and untreated glass.

"For me, the major advantages of the Linx 10 are its flexibility and mobility. It is half the size of our other printers, meaning I can position it exactly where I want. Setup is very easy and intuitive with the graphical user interface. The line speed sensor is a great feature, meaning that if the speed of the line changes, the code is still good, and the process of refilling the fluids in the printer is very simple."

Gregory Webb, Factory Manager, Creative Cosmetics

See the Linx 10 in action at Creative Cosmetics at www.linx.co.uk/Linx10-CreativeCosmetics

HOW TO ENSURE DAIRY DELIGHTS

The dairy sector is set for growth in the coming years, with global demand projected to rise by 2.5 per cent per annum to 2020.

There's plenty of new product development too, as manufacturers seek to meet consumer requirements for healthy products, convenience and snacking on-the-go. This is leading to the introduction of new pack formats, while production runs are getting shorter with more frequent changeovers.

Such developments can impact on a business's batch printing requirements, particularly as manufacturers seek to maintain production efficiencies, maximise quality and meet the relevant compliance requirements to ensure effective brand positioning and protection.

The new Linx White Paper 'Choosing the Best Dairy Batch Printing Solution' looks at the current market opportunities and challenges, examines the role printed codes can play in supporting a business's growth, and outlines the choice of solutions available to meet the needs of many different dairy products and applications.

The white paper can be downloaded at www.linx.co.uk/industry-solutions/dairy



CODER BREWS UP SUCCESS

Beavertown Brewery is reaping the benefits of a Linx 8900 Continuous Ink Jet (CIJ) printer for printing on its high-speed canning line.

The printer is able to handle the line's current maximum speed of 200 cans per minute as well as higher speeds should throughput increase further. The Linx 8900 can also cope with the line's variable speed, meaning code quality and clarity remains consistent even as the line speeds up or slows down.

An IP55 rating ensures the Linx 8900 can perform reliably during the filling operation, and also allows the machine to remain in place during washdown of the line after every shift.

Linx's proven autoflush system, which thoroughly cleans the printhead every time the printer is shut down, provides a fast, reliable start-up the next time it is required. This is a significant benefit for Beavertown Brewery, where the canning line is not in operation every day.

"The Linx 8900 is really easy to use, keeps up with the line and meets all our needs. I really like the IP55 rating, which is an important benefit as we wash the line down after every shift. The touchscreen interface is simply laid out and allows us to change over codes very quickly after each run."

Tom Jones, Assistant Head Brewer and Production Manager, Beavertown Brewery



Read more at:

www.linx.co.uk/Linx8900-Beavertown

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO LINX

An '80s-themed party was the perfect way to celebrate Linx's 30th birthday in July, with many staff even dressing up in the kind of attire that was popular back when the company was founded in 1987.

The party at a local village hostelry included a disco, a live band and an '80s themed dessert table (think Black Forest gâteau...), as well as a raffle to raise money for Linx's nominated charity of the year, Alzheimer's Research UK. Luckily the weather held up and staff were able to enjoy garden games and dance until the summer sun sank.

Linx Printing Technologies has remained in St Ives, Cambridgeshire since its birth in 1987, moving from several industrial units to its shiny new purpose-built facility around the corner in 2015.



OUR NOMINATED CHARITY – ALZHEIMER'S RESEARCH UK

Every year Linx's staff nominate one charity into which to focus their fund-raising efforts. Last year, they supported the East Anglian Air Ambulance and achieved their target of £10,000.

This year staff voted to support Alzheimer's Research UK. So far they have organised events such as a bake sale, a car wash and raffles to support research in order to help beat dementia.

In September, a total of 36 Linx employees pounded the streets of Cambridge in the annual Chariots of Fire Race. Healthy competition was

observed between the six Linx relay teams, while other staff members, along with families and friends sponsored them on the 1.6 mile relay race for Alzheimer's Research UK.

You can find out more about the charity at <http://www.alzheimersresearchuk.org>



In support of

The Power to Defeat Dementia

BEST OF BRITISH

Linx is pleased to be sponsoring the Best of British category at the New Producer Awards run by Speciality Food Magazine.

The company is excited to use its 30 years' experience in the sector to help a fledgling business on its journey – as companies must be under three years old to be eligible for nomination.

The awards, which recognise young companies with innovative launches in the fine food sector, will take place at the Bread and Jam event in October at the Institute of Directors, London.



Service

For technical assistance or to book a service visit, call our Helpdesk on 01480 302600 or email us at ukservice@linx.co.uk.

The Helpdesk is open 7.00am to 5.30pm Mondays to Thursdays, and 7.00am to 5.00pm Fridays.

Sales

For sales enquiries for new equipment and accessories, call 01480 302661.

To order fluids, consumables and spare parts, call 01480 302128, or email us at orders@linxglobal.com

Lines are open 8:30am to 5:00pm Mondays to Fridays.



For further information, visit www.linx.co.uk.

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