

## Care and Maintenance of Anilox Sleeves

Anilox sleeves can improve print quality, reduce press set-up time, and increase productivity. To achieve these benefits and increase the lifetime of sleeves, follow the recommendations below for proper care and maintenance.

### Storage and Handling

- Store anilox in boxes, between cones, or in an upright position on the floor in a clean, well-ventilated location (stacking may cause distortion)
- Protect from dust, shock, or impact and inner layer of sleeve should be protected against oil and grease as these substances may affect adherence
- Handle carefully to avoid edge damage

### Chemical Resistance

Praxair anilox sleeves are resistant to the following chemicals:

- Acetate
- Acid (protect anilox sleeve edges and inside surface)
- Dowanol PM
- Ethylic alcohol
- Isopropyl alcohol
- Other chemical products, please contact us for assistance

### Cleaning

Cleaning and protection of anilox sleeve edges and inside surfaces are highly recommended; however, closely follow the equipment or chemical manufacturer's instructions based on your chosen cleaning method.

Accepted methods include:

- Laser
- Soda-Blast
- Ultrasonic (protect anilox sleeve edges to avoid separation of inner layers)

### Cleaning Tips

- Use only appropriate stainless steel brushes and an appropriate solvent for scrubbing the sleeve surface (brass or nylon brasher may cause damage)
- Clean after every run with adequate cleaning product
- Always clean sleeves as soon as possible to avoid ink drying
- Clean inner layer with a wet cleaning towel using alcohol or other solvent used on production equipment
- Do not clean the inner layer with hard tools (iron, etc.) to avoid development of stripes

### How to Get Started. Contact Us Today.

Ask a Praxair printing specialist to recommend the best engraving for your application.

Call the nearest location or email [psti-info@praxair.com](mailto:psti-info@praxair.com).

Or visit [www.praxair.com/printing](http://www.praxair.com/printing) to learn more.

*Protection rings are recommended when cleaning the sleeve with a mechanical or chemical machine or system. The rings will protect sleeve edges against chocks and aggression of the inner layer.*

