

## CHOOSING THE TOTAL SOLUTION

### THE PROPER SELECTION OF THERMAL RIBBONS AND MEDIA

The demands of your bar code and labeling needs are unique to your applications. Your selection of the Printronix thermal transfer label printers, confirms your commitment and dedication to printing quality, system reliability and operational economy. However, the ultimate success of your bar code and graphic label production and usage goes far beyond selecting the correct printer. The ribbons and label media that you select will play a significant role in the success or failure of your application. We offer the following suggestions for choosing the total solution.

### IDENTIFY AND DEFINE THE REQUIREMENTS OF YOUR APPLICATION

Every bar code and label application has easily definable requirements that will contribute to its ultimate utility and success. Defining the operational, environmental and physical conditions that a label will encounter during its life is the first step in ensuring success. When your label is installed in its operating environment, it must not only have the highest possible printing quality but must also continue to function as intended for its entire lifetime.

### QUESTIONS THAT NEED TO BE CONSIDERED:

- How long must your label last?
- What is the level of moisture or humidity that your label will experience?
- What temperatures must be withstood during the application or use of the label?
- What level of abrasion from handling or scanning is anticipated?
- Is the label intended for indoor or outdoor use - or both?
- Is high durability and tear resistance desired?
- What are the surface characteristics of the product or item to be labeled?
- Is the label intended to be permanent or removable?
- Is a tamper-evident material necessary?
- Is chemical, oil, blood, or solvent resistance necessary?

### MATCH THE MEDIA AND RIBBON TO YOUR NEEDS

Once your specific requirements are identified, you need only to select the thermal ribbon and media combination that will satisfy your needs. Printronix offers a wide selection of genuine Printronix ribbons and media that are designed to produce the highest possible print quality with the thermal transfer label printers for both general use and highly specialized label applications. To assist you in your selection, Printronix media specialists are familiar with the specifications and capabilities of all Printronix products and are always available to recommend the exact products to ensure total success of your applications.

### PUT YOUR LABELS TO THE TEST

Before implementing the application, thorough testing under operational conditions of the ribbon and media that you have selected, is highly recommended. This precautionary procedure will not only confirm the validity of your ribbon and media selections, but also assist in identifying any unanticipated production, handling, and usage difficulties before they can affect the performance and effectiveness of your application. Testing of label adhesion, durability, and resistance to expected environmental conditions before implementation will ensure effective and economical system implementation.

### CONTINUE QUALITY AUDIT

Finally, it is highly advisable for you to establish an ongoing quality audit program. The purpose of the quality audit is to ensure that the quality, consistency, and performance of your label production continues to meet the demands and expectations of your critical applications. Label production should always be treated as a high quality manufacturing process and given the attention needed to prevent change and undesirable variations from affecting the printing operation.

For more information or to order Genuine Printronix Supplies, please call our **Supplies Hotline** at **800-733-1900** or email us at [supplies@printronix.com](mailto:supplies@printronix.com)

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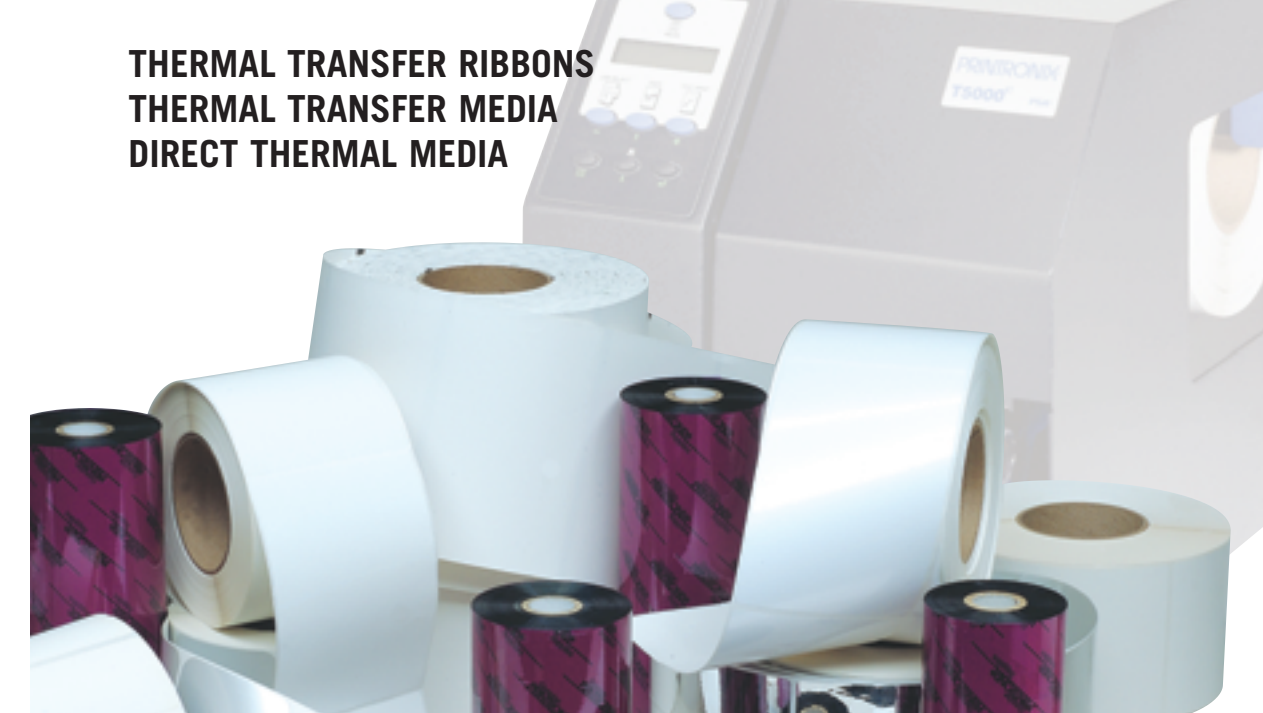
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## MEDIA SELECTION GUIDE

**THERMAL TRANSFER RIBBONS**  
**THERMAL TRANSFER MEDIA**  
**DIRECT THERMAL MEDIA**



**GENUINE**  
**PRINTRONIX**  
**SUPPLIES**

*Genuine Printronix thermal supplies:  
protecting your printer investment.*

PRINTRONIX MEDIA	DESCRIPTION	TYPICAL APPLICATION	ADHESION				TEMPERATURE		ENVIRONMENT					MEDIA RIBBON	
			CORRU-GATED	METAL/GLASS	PLASTIC	PAPER	MINIMUM APPLICATION	OPERATING RANGE	INDOOR	OUTDOOR UV	OUTDOOR MOISTURE	HEAT	CHEMICAL	ABRASION	

**THERMAL TRANSFER**

PAPER	LABEL	105	Premium coated paper Permanent acrylic adhesive	Compliance shipping, general warehouse, address, AIAG, LOGMARS, product ID, hardware parts supply	1	1	1	1	50°F	-22°F to +125°F	1	2	5	5	6	5	105	8300 8500 8550 8600
		110	Premium coated paper Permanent acrylic adhesive	Compliance shipping, general warehouse, address, AIAG, LOGMARS, product ID, hardware parts supply	1	1	1	1	50°F	-22°F to +125°F	1	2	5	5	6	5	110	8300 8500 8550 8600
		120R	Premium coated paper Removable adhesive	Temporary product ID, pricing, point of sale, shelf marking labels which can be cleanly removed	1	1	1	3	40°F	0°F to +120°F	1	2	5	5	6	5	120R	8300 8500 8550 8600
	TAG	180T	7.0 mil coated paper tagstock	Retail hangtag, warehouse bin and pouch inserts, inventory control, work in process, general purpose tag	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	to +300°F	1	2	5	2	2	5	180T	8300 8500 8550 8600
FILM	LABEL	510	4.0 mil white polyolefin Permanent acrylic adhesive	Durable satin finish for chemical pails and drums and general outdoor and industrial use	1	1	1	1	25°F	-40°F to +175°F	1	1	1	2	1	2	510	8600 8700
		520	Smudgeproof white polyolefin Permanent acrylic adhesive	Outdoor exposures especially chemical drums, etc.- provides a markable smudgeproof topcoat	1	1	1	1	25°F	-40°F to +175°F	1	1	1	2	1	2	520	8500 8550 8600
	TAG	580T	8.5 mil smudgeproof Poly tagstock	Outdoor nursery, lumberyard, and industrial environment hangtag and insert tag	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	to +125°F	1	1	1	2	1	2	580T	8500 8550 8600
	LABEL	700's	2.0 mil polyester label stock White, matte and silver	UL/CSA compliant nameplate labels harsh environment and laboratory labels	1	1	1	1	25°F	-40°F to +300°F	1	1	1	1	1	1	700's	8600 8700 8770

**GENUINE PRINTRONIX RIBBONS**  
The best printing solution is achieved when the printer, ribbon, and media are matched to the application requirements. Use of genuine Printronix thermal transfer ribbons will ensure optimum print and bar code quality, consistent imaging performance, and extended life of the printhead.

**RIBBON 8300: WIDE SPECTRUM WAX**  
Provides superior print quality on coated and uncoated paper and tag stocks.

**RIBBON 8500: WAX RESIN BLEND**  
Provides excellent high speed print quality with premium durability performance on a wide range of thermal transfer receptive papers and films.

**RIBBON 8550: PREMIUM WAX RESIN BLEND**  
Combines excellent high-speed print quality with premium durability and performance on flood-coated labels/tags.

**RIBBON 8600: SPECIALTY RESIN**  
A premium resin formula for excellent image scuff resistance while achieving premium print quality on a wide range of synthetic films and coated papers.

**RIBBON 8700: HARSH ENVIRONMENT RESIN**  
Provides the highest heat, chemical, and abrasion resistance for use with high-end synthetic facestocks. When used with the proper polyester media, this ribbon meets UL regulatory requirements.

**RIBBON 8770: HARSH CHEMICAL RESIN**  
Provides excellent heat, chemical and abrasion resistance. Designed for synthetic label/tag stocks and qualified automotive labels; meets GM 6121M Suffix B requirements; listed for UL applications.

**DIRECT THERMAL**

PAPER	LABEL	205	Economy direct thermal paper Permanent acrylic adhesive	Short life deli, grocery, shipping, work in process	1	1	1	1	32°F	-22°F to +120°F	1	4	5	6	6	6	205	Direct Thermal
		210	Premium direct thermal paper Permanent acrylic adhesive	Compliance shipping, general warehouse, address, AIAG, LOGMARS, product ID	1	1	1	1	32°F	-22°F to +120°F	1	4	5	6	6	6	210	Direct Thermal
	TAG	280T	7 mil direct thermal paper tagstock	Economical ticket and tag stock for general retail and industrial use	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	to +120°F	1	4	5	6	6	6	280T	Direct Thermal
FILM	LABEL	410	3.3 mil direct thermal film Permanent acrylic adhesive	Excellent moisture resistance and tear strength for applications such as baggage tags, etc.	1	1	1	1	32°F	-22°F to +120°F	1	4	1	6	2	2	410	Direct Thermal

1 = Excellent, recommended      2 = Good for this category      3 = Test  
4 = Background darkens            5 = Minimal exposure            6 = Not suitable