

TITLE: Solara ion Reminder Note

Category: Solara ion

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Summary: This weekly Solara ion Reminder Note contains one item:

- Head Clean differences
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Issue: Definitions of head clean, purge and power purge

Below are the definitions for some of the processes for the Solara ion that may be confusing in the field. Following the definitions are a few examples to help explain the differences.

Head Clean

Definition: A small amount of ink is pumped from the pouch through the nozzles. May be referred to as a "prime".

Use for: Routine maintenance. If there are a few missing and/or mis-firing nozzles in each head.

Purge

Definition: A larger amount of ink is pumped from the pouch through the nozzles and the purge valve.

Use for: To remove trapped air in a print head or if there are many missing nozzles in a specific head. Also used if you are filling an ink line (embedded in the "fill ink line" procedure), or replacing a head or reservoir assembly.

Power Purge

Definition: The same as the "purge" procedure but do not open the purge valve when asked and only allow ink to flow through the nozzles.

Use for: If there are a few missing or mis-firing nozzles that did not clean up with a normal "head clean". Can be used to remove excess flush or cleaning solution if too much was applied to the head. This "power purge" may not remove trapped air in the head, especially if there are many nozzles out due to a large air bubble.

Examples of cleanings

Ex 1: My machine has been idle for 3 hours and there are now a few missing nozzles on a couple of the heads.

Solution 1: Perform a "head clean".

Ex 2: My machine prints poorly with many missing nozzles, but after a few passes the nozzles begin to come back to life and the print quality improves. It is still not perfect.

Solution 2: Most likely I used too much flush solution when swabbing the heads. A "power purge" should remove the excess flush.

Ex 3: My machine prints well but part of the way through the print, the print begins to fade away. Sometimes I even end up missing a complete color by the time the print ends.

Solution 3: There is most likely air trapped in the line somewhere. A “purge” (and sometimes 2 or 3 purges) will help push the air out of the line.

Ex 4: I notice that a large drop of one color appears on my print. There is not a large mess of ink, just one drop here and there.

Solution 4: There is most likely air trapped in the line again. A “purge” (and sometimes 2 or 3 purges) will help push the air out of the line.