

Heat Seal Machine Use & Maintenance



Your heat seal machine will last longer and perform more efficiently with routine maintenance. Following these guidelines will also help insure barcodes are properly applied. Please contact your heat seal machine manufacturer for assistance with machine service and replacement parts. If you need assistance with barcodes please contact Amber at (817) 714-8400 or by e-mail at Amber@ipc-tags.com.

CAUTION: Serious burns may occur operating this equipment. Do not place hands or arms between top and bottom platens when machines are operational. Do not modify machines in any way.

- 1. Turn the machine on 15 20 minutes prior to use to insure that the temperature is up to required heat. Check direct temperature readings on the thermometers (not the control knobs).
- 2. Check the timer to make sure it is properly set for the item you are applying. Refer to application instructions.
- 3. Check the air pressure gauge to insure it is at the proper setting. Refer to application instructions.
- 4. Clean top and bottom Teflon covers periodically as adhesives from the barcode may seep out from the edges and deposit onto the Teflon. Also the "finish" from fabrics may build up causing discoloration of the Teflon which may transfer from one fabric to the next staining garments.
 - a. Unplug your machine and let it cool down.
 - b. Using a non-abrasive cleaner such as liquid dish soap and warm water wipe down platens with a soft cloth. Be sure to rinse with clean water and dry before use.
 - c. If residue remains on the Teflon you may <u>warm</u> your machine back up and try cleaning it again. Be sure to unplug the machine again before cleaning and use heat proof hand protection. You should also wipe down the rest of the machine to remove dust at this time.
- 5. Sponges should be checked and replaced on a regular basis. The purpose of the sponge is to absorb uneven layers. Should it become hard and compressed it should be replaced. There are pros and cons to covering sponges with Teflon. Uncovered sponges absorb uneven layers more efficiently but will become compressed, hard and crack much more quickly. Covering sponges will make them last longer but they are less effective in absorbing uneven layers of fabric. Consider your unique application.
- 6. Air gauges should be drained daily from both the machine and the air compressor to insure water does not penetrate valves or cylinders. This is especially true in high humidity areas. Refer to owner's manual for heat seal machines and air compressors.
- 7. Keep a daily log to insure machines are checked prior to application and to insure Teflon and sponges are replaced on a routine basis.