



8 WAYS FOR DISTRIBUTION PLANTS TO GET MORE FROM THEIR ZEBRA PRINTER CONSUMABLES

Save money, decrease downtime, and increase the longevity of your equipment by following these eight easy steps.

1. Keep equipment and media clean.

While regular cleaning and maintenance may seem obvious, it should not be overlooked as a method of extending the life of printer supplies. Know the volume of your output and how often you need to clean your equipment. Keep dust away from the ribbon and remove anything that falls between the ribbon and label. In distribution plants there is ample opportunity for dirt and other particles to settle in the printer. Be diligent about cleaning the printhead after every change of media.

2. Buy OEM consumables.

Purchasing OEM (Original Equipment Manufacturer) consumables guarantees quality and eliminates the risk of damaging your equipment. Many compatibles are poorly made and can reduce the life of your printhead or lead to avoidable printer repairs. Investing in high quality consumables will keep your equipment running at its best.

3. Store media in the proper environment.

Consumables should always be stored at room temperature, not in a humid or dry warehouse. Keep supplies in a climate-controlled closet. For high-volume jobs keep only the media supplies for the next few days on hand in the warehouse. Never put media in the printer damp, as this can damage and reduce the lifespan of the printer.

4. Adjust the printer settings.

Take advantage of the settings available on your printer to make the most of supplies. Make sure you are on the correct mode for using direct thermal or thermal transfer ribbons. Adjust the printhead to use the minimum printhead pressure and darkness (burn temperature) while still maintaining good print quality.

5. Match the length and width of media.

By matching the length and width of your ribbons and labels you can save both time and money. If you have a 2" wide label, the ribbon should be ¼" wider, but not 4" wide. As much as possible try to buy lengths so the ribbon and label will run out at the same time. Each time you change the ribbon or label you use up a section of media. You never want to waste more than 10%.

6. Make sure media is compatible.

Always ensure you are using the correct ribbon and label combination for your application.

Direct thermal printing is for temporary use and does not need a ribbon. Thermal transfer does require the use of a ribbon and is preferred when labels will be exposed to heat or light and are needed to last for more than a year. Thermal transfer is also used for printing on different mediums.

Wax ribbons can be used for standard printing on paper. Wax-resin ribbons offer a higher quality material that is more impervious to the elements. When the highest quality is needed, use resin ribbons.

7. Use standard size media when possible.

Avoid using unnecessary custom-sized labels and instead purchase stock label sizes such as 4" x 6" or 3" x 3." Custom labels are more expensive and can take longer to ship for your mission-critical needs.

8. Take advantage of new innovations.

While it is not practical to implement every upgrade available on the market, new technologies can often be cost effective improvements to workflow processes. For example, when you consider the money saved on power by replacing 5-10 year old models with new Energy Star printers, they could pay for themselves. Contact one of our specialists to discuss optimizing your system.

Analyze your workflow. Do not keep using expensive, dated forms because "that's how it's always been done" when there are more efficient methods available.

OUR PROPOSITION

Purchase your consumables with confidence. We'll never leave you to wonder what equipment you really need or which supplies to buy. We've spent the last 20 years in the manufacturing and distribution world answering the questions you have and repairing the printers you rely on. We don't just sell you a printer, we sell you a solution and we make sure it stays running.

We understand how busy your day is. That's why we've set up ways for you to order when and how you need. Order online anytime of day or night or contact your account representative by phone or e-mail. Our relationships with various vendors guarantees that you get the consumables you need on time.

That's why we offer people-friendly, warehouse-friendly solutions.

Get a Free Assessment! Have one of our experienced account representatives complete a complementary evaluation of the materials and processes you use. Simply call our toll free number (800) 233-1474 to request your consumables assessment.

FEATURED TESTIMONIALS

IntegraServ has proven to be the right choice for both our equipment needs and for service. Every printer comes configured for our specific application so we can use it right away. Maintenance is outstanding. These guys really understand how important this equipment is to our business and are extremely responsive when we need help. High tech company with solid old fashioned values. I continue to be pleased and impressed!

Sincerely,
Ben, Director of IT Operations

Service: IntegraServ is by far one of the most dependable companies I have ever worked with. My company owns facilities in 43 states plus the corporate office. It would be impossible for us to operate without the help of a reputable company, IntegraServ, to assist in the repair of our printers.

Willingness: IntegraServ is always willing to dispatch a technician upon our request. We have a great working relationship and it is known that when we call, there is an issue that needs immediate attention. Our operation requires accessible printers 7 X 24.

Promptness: IntegraServ has a great helpdesk who respond immediately upon receiving a request either by phone, email or web. Their helpdesk immediately takes the necessary steps to get the print problem resolved. They know their customers needs and meet their expectations. In many cases they are on site the same day if the call is placed early. If placed later in the day, a next day arrival is met.

Price: IntegraServ has very competitive pricing. I have been with IntegraServ for many years and considering the pricing they give to my company, I always feel like we are getting our money's worth. I have a few laser printers that are not on contract. I use IntegraServ on a time and material basis for these and have never felt over charged.

Professionalism: The helpdesk and technicians are very professional. We communicate with them in the same way we do our own people. They can give you the comfort of family and at the same time handle themselves in a very professional manner.

To sum everything up regarding IntegraServ, I have never had any desire to look for another company to take care of our printer maintenance.

Regards,
Gary, Senior Manager, IT