**Best If Used By (Born On Date)** 

Eco-solvent ink typically has 2 year shelf life from born on date.

Sublimation ink typically has 12-18 months of shelf life from born on date.

UV ink typically has a 12 month shelf life from born on date.

We all know that the Eco-Sol ink has a great durability outdoors. I mean really, 3 years before it starts to fade or show any signs of sun damage. That is amazing.

But do we all know that our ink has a shelf life before it is considered "bad" ink? The Max and Max 2 inks have a 2-year shelf life...2 years!!! That is a long time for ink to sit and not be used. Hopefully it is crying out to your customers each time they call or visit your office.

Our Eco UV ink doesn't age as well. It has gone from 8 months to 1-year shelf life recently. 12 months to use it or lose it seems like a short time but it still can work if done right.

There are ways to tell when the ink was made and how much longer it has of a shelf life. It is all contained in the lot number of the cartridge. Here are some examples of how to read the date code in the lot number:



Lot# \*5A19D1B129\* Date code is first 4 digits: 5A19

1<sup>st</sup> digit is Year: 5 = 2015 2<sup>nd</sup> digit is Month: A = October 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> digits are Day: 19<sup>th</sup> day

## Key for dates:

10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
A	В	С	D	Е	F	G	Ι	7	K	Ш	М	N	Р	Q	R	S	Т	U	٧	W	Χ

Eco-Sol ink can be a great precursor to help sell devices as well as let new end users now that you are a Roland dealer. It will also show them that you are ready to support their needs. Eco UV is tougher to keep on the shelves based on the short duration it will be around for. The best advice we can give is stock a small amount that your customers will consume within a few months and then drop ship anything else. It will ensure the freshest (new) ink hits the machine and allows the customer the best and most amount of use.

As always thank you for your support.