



# Silk Screen Inks

## Products Information

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## Diazol TX600

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### PROPERTIES

Diazol TX600 is a diazo sensitized, two-pack emulsion formulated for Direct Photostencil making. This dark blue emulsion resistant to all types of water based and plastisol inks. The print run resistance can be considerably increased by chemical hardening with HDT-001. Diazol TX600 is recommended for textile printing.

### INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE

#### Safelighting

Diazol TX600 should be handled in a room with low ultraviolet light. Special safelight is not essential, but yellow or weak illumination is desirable. When used in the general workroom, it is recommended that gold fluorescent tubes be used and daylight be excluded or filtered by a yellow lacquer coating or film applied over the windows. To check whether the light in the workroom is suitable for the handling of sensitized emulsions, coat the screen with the emulsion and then dry. Cover half of the screen with black paper and leave the screen inside the room for at least 20 minutes before rinsing with water. If there is no emulsion stain left on either side of the screen the light in the workroom is suitable.

#### Sensitizing

Diazol TX is supplied as a two-pack system consisting of the following:

Part A – Emulsion

Part B – Diazo Sensitizer

These two parts should be mixed as follows:

1. Fill the sensitizer bottle with water to the level indicated on the label and shake well to ensure that the sensitizer is completely dissolved.
2. Add the sensitizer solution to the emulsion and stir thoroughly with a plastic or wooden stirring stick.
3. Let the mixed emulsion stand for approximately 2 hours to allow time for the trapped air bubbles to disperse.

For customers who like to use the emulsion at higher or lower viscosity, the sensitizer can be added directly to the emulsion or dissolved in a full sensitizer bottle of water depending on individual preferences. When adding the sensitizer powder directly to the emulsion care must be taken to ensure the product is thoroughly mixed.

#### Preparing the Screen

When degreasing the screen use DEGREASER . Wet the screen with water and apply DEGREASER with a sponge or brush in a light circular motion to ensure that both sides of the screen are thoroughly treated. Leave the screen to stand for a few minutes and then rinse with cold water to remove all traces of DEGREASER. Allow the mesh to dry before coating.

#### Coating Manual

Set the screen on edge slightly inclined away from the operator and then follow this procedure:

1. Apply one or two coats of Diazol TX600, wet on wet, to the print side of the screen.
2. Apply one or two coats of this emulsion, wet on wet, to the squeegee side of the screen.
3. If a higher build of Diazol TX600 is required extra coats should be applied, wet on wet, to the squeegee side.
4. Ensure that a suitable coating trough is used to deposit an accurate and consistent coating of emulsion.

**Automatic**

When using an automatic coating machine, a simultaneous single coat on each side of the screen is recommended. If higher builds are required, extra coats should be applied to the squeegee side of the screen.

**Drying**

The wet screen must be dried in darkness or subdued yellow light, ideally in a horizontal position, squeegee side up. Warm air or a well-ventilated heated cupboard (up to 40 °C/105 °F) may be used, however, special care should be taken not to blow the dust onto the drying screen. Ensure the screen is thoroughly dry before exposure for maximum print durability.

**Positioning the Positive Film**

1. Position the positive, emulsion side in contact with the Diazol TX600 coating on the print side of the dry screen, securing it with small pieces of clear tape.
2. Place the complete screen into vacuum frame (VF11012) and ensure perfect contact before exposure.

**Exposure**

Correct exposure is the most important factor in obtaining optimum resolution, definition and stencil life. To set the correct exposure time with an unfamiliar emulsion or light source the use of an exposure test scale is recommended.

This can be done in two ways as follows:

1. Place a (EXPFILM) on the print side of the emulsion and then expose for a suitable time depending on the type of mesh; the distance between the screen and the light source; and the light intensity (the ideal test exposure would be double the correct exposure). After exposure, develop the stencil so that the appropriate exposure values can be determined. The correct exposure is the longest exposure that can be given whilst still obtaining optimum stencil resolution.
2. Place a strip of fine detail positive film over a coated screen and use a black paper mask to give it a series of stepped exposures. The exposure time is doubled from one step to the next. The correct exposure is the longest exposure given while still obtaining optimum stencil resolution after development.

**Comments:** The exposure time depends on a number of factors including, the type of light source, the mesh count, the emulsion thickness, the detail required and the color of the screen mesh as well as the transparency of the positive film and the glass clarity of the vacuum frame.

**Table of Exposure Guide**  
**Using 62-64 W Screen Mesh with both sides coated twice with sensitized emulsion**

Light Source	Distance	Length of Exposure Time ( Seconds )
40W UV Fluorescent tubes	30 cm	240 - 300
1000W Metal Halide	50 cm	140 - 170
2000W Metal Halide	120 cm	270 - 360
3000W Metal Halide	120 cm	180 - 240
5000W Metal Halide	120 cm	120 - 150
6000W Metal Halide	120 cm	90 - 120

**Comments:** the exposure values quoted are the time needed for full curing and therefore complete hardening of the sensitized emulsion on 62-64 white screen mesh, coated once on both sides. For multifilament, stainless steel, colored mesh and heavily coated stencils, longer exposure is required.

## Developing and Final Drying

Place the screen in a washout booth and gently spray both sides with cold or warm water (not over 40oC/105oF). After one or two minutes, increase the spray pressure slightly. Continue developing until all parts of the image appear clean and sharp. With thick or heavily coated stencils, leave to stand wet for a few minutes before starting spray development.

After spray development is completed, dry the screen with the aid of a warm air fan or drying cabinet

## Waterproofing Stencils

The resistance of Diazol TX600 to water-based inks can be enhanced by hardening with HDT-001 - a sponge soaked with HDT-001 should be used to coat both sides of the screen before drying with one of the following methods:

1. Leave it to dry in the shade or indoors.
2. Blow-dry with cool air.

**Comments:** Once hardened, Diazol TX600 will be difficult to remove.

## Reclaiming the Screen

Remove ink residues by applying Screensolve (SS0038) and then rinse the screen with water. Apply Screenstrip (SSP-150) or Screenstrip Gel (SSG-155) thoroughly to both sides of the stencil. Leave for a few minutes and use a strong water jet or high-pressure water gun to remove the stencil.

## STORAGE

Diazol TX600 should be kept in a cool location - not below 0oC/32oF or over 35oC/95oF and in a sealed container.

## SAFETY AND HANDLING

Diazol TX600 Emulsion should be used with care. Wear suitable PPE, for example, appropriate gloves and safety glasses.

### Diazol TX Emulsion:

- Is free from any toxic, carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic chemicals
- Does not have a flashpoint and is, therefore, exempt from the Highly Flammable Liquid Regulations

## ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

### Diazol TX600:

- Does not contain heavy metals.
- Is formulated free from ozone depleting chemicals as described in the Montreal Convention.
- Is free from aromatic hydrocarbons, known to have an adverse effect on the environment.
- Is moderately biodegradable as determined by the OECD 301D Closed Bottle Test.
- Has a pH of 4-5.
- Does not have any volatile solvents and is therefore less harmful to the environment when compared with solvent-based products.