

Image transfer by sublimation on DuPont™ Corian®



New surface effects with sublimation

After over 30 years' existence, Corian® – the original solid surface material from DuPont – continues to re-invent itself. This time, the digital revolution provides the foundation by which new colours, patterns and a variety of surface effects can be created. Known as "image transfer by sublimation", this technique allows designers to personalise Corian® in a completely new way.

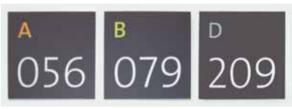
The sublimation process consists of transferring images into a sheet of Corian®, so that – almost like a human tattoo – a permanent image is created within the surface. The printed Corian® can then be re-polished and thermoformed in the same way as unprinted Corian®.

By using water-based inks and low-cost equipment readily available via DuPont's QN fabricator network, the sublimation process has little impact on the environment and is cost competitive versus other printing techniques or inlays. Its rapid cycle time allows fast turn-around for proofing, sampling and production of signs, logos, tiles and other design elements.

Image transfer by sublimation is a new way to communicate the work of transformation by designers, engineers and architects.







LOGOS & SIGNS





TILES



VANITIES

IMAGE TRANSFER BY SUBLIMATION ON CORIAN®

BRINGS YOU CREATIVE FREEDOM

FOR YOUR SIGNAGE CONCEPTS AND DESIGNS

The sublimation process on Corian® step by step

STEP 1

PREPARING THE IMAGE TO BE SUBLIMATED

Digital images in various formats (jpg, tiff, etc...) are saved on a computer and treated with colour management software in order to control their dimensions and resolution.

An image is then printed onto a low absorption paper using special water-based inks with an ink jet printer. Finally, the printed paper is placed on the sheet of Corian®, ready to be sublimated.



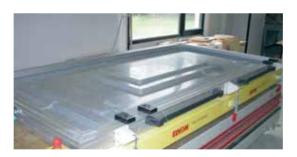


STEP 2

TRANSFERRING THE IMAGE INTO CORIAN®

A heating device, consisting of a silicone membrane and aluminium plate, is put in contact with the printed paper and Corian®, both of which are heated on a vacuum table to ensure that the inks vaporise and permeate into the Corian® matrix.

Once the temperature reaches about 180°C, the heat is turned off and the material cools down to ambient temperature. When the sublimation cycle is completed, the image on the paper has transferred to the Corian®, and has actually become a part of the surface.



STEP 3

CUTTING AND FINISHING THE SUBLIMATED CORIAN® MATERIAL

The sublimated Corian® material may subsequently be re-polished, reprinted on the opposite side, thermoformed and cut to size.







IMAGE TRANSFER BY SUBLIMATION ON CORIAN® HAS ALREADY BEEN USED SUCCESSFULLY IN A VARIETY OF APPLICATIONS, AS SHOWN BELOW



TABLE TOPS BY ROSITA MISSONI



TABLE BY CHRISTIAN GHION



SIGNAGE PROJECT IN PARIS BY A3 PRODUCTIONS

For more information about DuPont Solid Surfaces products please call:

0800/962116 (UK), 0800/29 5833 (A), 0800/96666 (B), 0800/917272 (F), 0800/1810018 (D), 1800/553252 (IRL), 800/876750 (I), 0800/23079 (L), 0800/554614 (CH), 901/120 089 (E), 0800/0223500 (NL), ++4631 697580 (Nordic Countries), ++7 095 797 2262/00 (Russia), ++971 4 3211532 (Middle East & Africa), ++420 257414203 (Central & Eastern Europe).



