Application Brief

Automotive Tote Labeling

Industry:
- Automobile assembly
- Body-in-white
- Automotive exterior and interior
- Chassis
- Automotive electronics and electrical
- Powertrain suppliers
- Automotive component distribution

Products:
- Duratran S tight removable label
- Duratherm S tight removable label
- INdelible label
- INdelible HP label
- TMX2000, 3000 series ribbons
- PX4i
- PM43

Region:
North America

Typical Applications:
- Automotive tote labeling
- Industrial tote labeling

Customer Benefits:
- Assured compliance with industry standards
- Durable, high contrast print for consistent scanning performance
- Reduced total cost of ownership with free printhead replacement program when Intermec media and fixed printers are used together
- On-demand generation of high quality labels for item traceability
- Labels with versatile adhesive that bonds firmly, removes cleanly

Intermec®
Printers & Media

Industry Need

Suppliers to Automotive Assembly Plants are categorized as body-in-white; chassis; electronics and electrical; exterior; interior; and powertrain. Just in time arrival of parts is critical to plant up time as high volume, high mix, require kanban inventory control systems to efficiently position parts on moving assembly lines.

With lean manufacturing discipline focused on minimizing waste, reducing the environmental impact of operations, and controlling costs, automotive manufacturers have continued to influence their supply chains from disposable containers to reusable totes. These totes eliminate the flow of used single-use containers to landfills, and offer many cycles of reuse as a preferred alternative to recycling. Additionally, these totes can be configured to protect and securely hold heavy, cumbersome items through transit, avoiding damage or loss.

Accurately tracking these totes requires a different marking method than the corrugated containers they replace. Labels must bond securely and remain intact throughout shipping, receiving, and inventory holding duration. As totes wear and develop rougher application surfaces, adhesive performance requirements become more demanding to ensure labels do not peel or fall from the surface. When empty totes are ready to be reused, labels must be removable without tearing or leaving residue that negatively impacts future labeling.

In some instances, tote applications require a permanent "license plate" that stays with the tote for its entire lifespan; the contents are linked to the tote identity in the database, rather than relabeling the tote with each new set of contents. These applications demand the highest performance labels, with expectations for long term durability to abrasion while handled, potential exposure to oils or chemicals, and even repeated wash cycles.

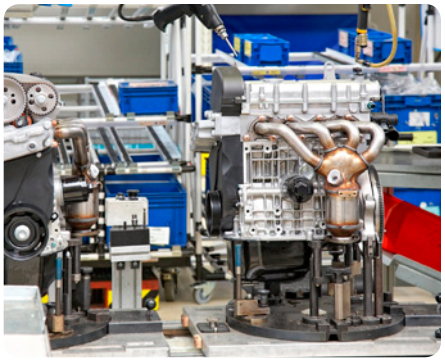
Intermec Solutions

Duratran S removable has been field-proven in automotive applications for removable tote labeling. With a synthetic face sheet, this material resists moisture, oils, and has the strength to remove from totes without tearing. The tight removable adhesive bonds securely with a range of typical surfaces (from smooth to lightly textured), yet remains cleanly removable even when totes remain in extended storage.

Duratherm S removable offers the same face sheet strength and adhesive performance, but with the simplicity of direct thermal printing. These labels offer excellent smudge resistance, and the protective topcoat ensures good resistance to moisture and mild chemicals.

For permanent "license plate" applications, INdelible labels offer the ultimate in durability. With extreme abrasion, temperature, and chemical resistance, these labels ensure the image remains readable for the life of the tote. For textured surfaces or particularly demanding conditions, INdelible HP offers even higher bond strength for secure, permanent identification.

The PM43 printer offers best-in-class connectivity ranging from the CCXv4 and WiFi certified wireless option to a standard serial port, ensuring that applications from cutting-edge integration to legacy hardware replacement are thoroughly supported. With the ability to remotely monitor, change settings, or reconfigure the printer, IT support is greatly simplified. With a full color touch screen or a one-button Icon version, this unit can either empower trusted users or positively eliminate employee tampering.



PX series printers offer maximum durability and throughput for 24/7, high volume applications. With a 6.7" maximum media width, the PX6i adds the capability to run industry-standard formats up to 6.5" wide, increasing throughput by 30% over 4" printers.

With Intermec smart printing capabilities, the PM and PX series printers can communicate to and from the host system. Interfacing with PLCs, scanners, or other devices, these printers can eliminate the need to install and support PCs or terminals at the workstation, reducing deployment and support costs and maximizing efficiency.

Media Recommendation

- Duratran S tight removable label
- Duratherm S tight removable label
- INdelible label
- INdelible HP label

Ribbon Recommendation

- TMX2000 series mid-range (Duratran S)
- TMX3000 series resin (INdelible)

Printer Recommendation

PM43 Mid Range Printer (Profile)

- ***Ready*** *– Fastest to deploy. Seamlessly fits any environment.*
  - Large color multi-lingual tamper proof touch-screen or icon user interface
  - No touch configuration capabilities
  - Only CCX & WiFi certified fixed printers with standard IPv6 implementation
- ***Reliable*** *– Maximize uptime. Built from 40 years of printing innovations. 3rd generation platform.*
  - Precision Print for consistent bar code printing with pin point accuracy
  - Multilingual Web page loaded on every printer ensure easy device monitoring
  - Strong metal structure with metal door that can be locked for media protection
- ***Perform*** *– Increase productivity and process efficiencies.*
  - Fastest throughput in its class
  - Powerful programmable capability with ability to directly connect peripherals
  - Most connectivity options in the market

PX4i/6i High Performance Printer (Profile)

- ***Smart*** *– Powerful smart-printing capabilities enable error-proof labeling and can simplify processes; All-in-one printer language abilities for drop-in simplicity*
- ***Strong*** *– Superior throughput, designed to excel in demanding environments*
- ***Secure*** *- Industry leading, advanced and secure network connectivity options*

Media Solutions for Automotive Tote Labeling

Application	Material	Durability	Temp. Range	Leading Stock Label Configurations	Leading Stock Ribbons
Removable tote labeling	Duratran S Tight Removable Label	Excellent facesheet strength, controlled bond strength with clean removability	40F minimum application , -40 to 200F service	4x6.5" roll (E26362)	TMX2000 series: 4.09x18,024" (1234118, CSI)
Removable tote labeling (Direct Thermal)	Duratherm S Tight Removable label	Excellent facesheet strength, controlled bond strength with clean removability	40F minimum application , -40 to 120F service	Custom	N/A (direct thermal)
Permanent "License Plate" Tracking of Durable Containers	INdelible Label	Superior scratch, smudge, and chemical resistance.	50F minimum application, -40 to 302F service	3x1 roll (E23068); 3x2 roll (E23069); 4x1 roll (E25732); 4x2 roll (E23222); 4x6 roll (E25733)	TMX3000 series: 3.27x12000" (13033312, CSI); 4.1x18,000" (13634118, CSI)
Rough, difficult surface, high temperature labeling	INdelible HP Label	Superior scratch, smudge, and chemical resistance. Excellent adhesive bond to textured or challenging surfaces.	50F minimum application, -40 to 302F service	3x1 roll (E27277)	TMX3000 series: 3.27x12000" (13033312, CSI)

The Intermec Advantage

In mission-critical tote tracking applications, it is essential that the printer/media system performs flawlessly. Intermec printers and media are optimized to deliver superior performance when used together. Our rigorous testing and co-engineering ensures consistently high print quality, proven label and tag performance in demanding real-world environments, and maximum print head service life for reduced downtime.

Intermec printers and media are complemented by the industry's only complete line of integrated solutions and services, including rugged mobile computers, RFID systems, and advanced scanning technology. Intermec products and services are used by customers worldwide to improve the productivity, quality and responsiveness of their business operations.

Printhead Replacement Program

Intermec will provide no cost replacement printheads, as failures occur due to normal wear and tear, to those customers who use Intermec Media Products exclusively with their Intermec direct thermal and thermal transfer fixed printers. For full details, click here.
http://www.intermec.com/docs/products/PrintheadReplacementProgram_web.pdf

For more information

Contact Intermec for more information on highly reliable automotive tote labeling, or for details on automobile manufacturer approvals.

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