Reasonably Priced
After-Market Ink

for Roland and Mutoh Printers

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About every 18 months we have inspected print shops using after-market inks from Sam-Ink. We have inspected print shops in Istanbul, Los Angeles, and Singapore. Our most recent evaluations were in early 2014 in several printing companies in Singapore.
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After-market Ink for Mutoh Printers

Here at NPE we found

- Three Mutoh Valuejet 1604 printers (DX5 printheads)
- One Mutoh Valuejet 1638
- Two new Mutoh Valuejet 1324
- One new Mutoh Valuejet 2638 (DX 7 printheads)
The print shop owner said he is “Happy with Mutoh printers.” He uses Onyx RIP software. He said he “tried Phaeton solvent printers but they did not work adequately, so we returned to Mutoh printers.”
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His print shop recently purchased a Fotoba cutter, with which he is very happy, “super fast.” (these cutters are unique; they are made in Italy).

He produces lots of bus stop shelter posters.
He also has HP Designjet 5500 printers, “about 10 years, running 24 hours a day, even Saturdays, full day; some Sundays.”
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A Print Shop which really Likes Roland Printers

It was nice to see print shop owners who were really content with the brand of printer they favored. Clearly they have found a well-made printer brand and a good local distributor.

In a single day we visited the one print shop with about 7 Mutoh printers. Then we visited a different print shop with many Roland printers.

- Roland XJ-740, with Sam-Ink cartridges at the back, DX4 printheads
- Roland SolJet Pro4XF-640 (has three of these)
Of these three new Roland models, two are four months old; one is in the shop for 2 and a half weeks. So clearly the owner was very happy if he bought two, and with this experience quickly bought a third. DX7 with gold plated nozzle plate.

One of the many reasons why he liked Roland printers was because “resale value is higher.”

The owner said, “Sam-Ink is close to quality and aspects of the original ink.” “Other ink is just Chinese ink.”
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He also had a Phaeton UD-3286E, which evidently functioned adequately, with Seiko 508GS printheads. Since the original ink had dull color and the client complained that if you rolled up the banner the ink was too wet. So he used the same (Sam-Ink) for an HP 9000s (which was a rebranded Seiko ColorPainter machine).

He had a VUTEk UV3200, “had better black, better skin colors than other printers.”

He said he has not yet detected a market for textiles. And that only about every six months does a single client ask about latex ink.

With his Roland he prints
- Banners
- Vinyl stickers
- Backlit
- Fashion, retail, airport shops

He uses the “Roland RIP.”
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