

Application Brief

Blood Bag Labeling



Industry:
Healthcare

Products:
Duratran II Blood Bag Label
TMX3202
PM4i
PF8

Region:
North America

Typical Applications:
Blood bag labeling

Customer Benefits:

- Reliable blood bag tracking with durable labels
- Assured compliance with government and industry standards
- Application-tailored adhesive and face sheet to maintain bond with flexible blood bags during processing and handling
- Durable, high contrast print for consistent scanning performance
- Reduced total cost of ownership with free printhead replacement program when Intermec media and printers are used together

Industry Need

With nearly 5 million Americans requiring blood transfusions annually, there is a tremendous need for blood products to supply these important therapies. Blood banks and collection centers require robust labels to reliably track blood from the donor to the final recipient; these labels need to survive multiple processing, testing, and storage steps through challenging environmental conditions. Intermec's blood bag labeling product set enables durable, positive tracking of these critical components.

Bar coded blood bag labels enable the high degree of accuracy required for successful transfusion therapy. Clearly identified blood typing prevents serious complications that could result from donor type incompatibility. Different blood components and storage conditions yield varying shelf life; clear expiration date identification guarantees patients receive only safe, effective products. Formats configured in compliance with ISBT-128 standards provide interoperability with multiple collection centers, processing locations, and hospital systems.

In order for essential data to follow the contents of the blood bag, labels must endure a series of challenging conditions. Labels must maintain a strong bond to the flexible blood bag during centrifugation while whole blood is separated into components. Labels must remain positively attached during standard or cryogenic freezing (plasma and some red cells), refrigeration (red cells), or continuous shaking at room temperature (platelets). The bond must then be maintained during warming, which often includes immersion in a water bath.

Beyond the physical performance needs, blood bag labels must also meet regulatory requirements. The United States Food and Drug Administration mandates compliance with 21 CFR175.105 to increase safety should components of the adhesive migrate through the plastic into the blood bag.

Reference Links

Standard for the Uniform Labeling of Cellular Therapy Products Using ISBT 128

http://iccbba.org/usconsensusstandard_cellulartherapy.pdf

FDA Guideline for the Uniform Labeling of Blood and Blood Components

<http://www.fda.gov/downloads/BiologicsBloodVaccines/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/Guidances/Blood/UCM080974.pdf>

Intermec Solution

Intermec's blood bag label products are designed for the needs of this critical tracking application. An aggressive adhesive securely bonds the label to the filled bag; the pliable face sheet flexes with it during centrifugation and multiple handling steps. With a wide service temperature range, Intermec labels remain positively attached through the broad range of blood component storage temperatures. Qualification testing through multiple freeze/thaw cycles ensures labels readily endure the harsh treatments commonly encountered.

Intermec's blood bag media, compliant with 21 CFR 175.105, has also passed testing for component migration across the blood bag per industry standards, increasing assurance of safety.

Images printed on Intermec blood bag labels with the durable TMX3202 resin ribbon, readily endure extensive handling, further adding to the robustness of the product set. Crisp, high contrast print ensures consistent scanning and imaging performance, eliminating error-prone manual data entry.

Labels can be provided in full face, single or double quadrant with or without DIN (Donor ID Number) cutouts. Piggyback material is also available for multi-step bag tracking or donor set labels.

Products

Duratran II Permanent Blood Bag Label

Ribbon Recommendation (if applicable)

TMX3202

Printer Recommendation

PM4i Mid Range Printer (High volume output)

PF8 Desktop Printer (Lower volume desktop use)

The Intermec Advantage

Intermec printers and media are optimized to deliver superior performance when used together. Our rigorous testing and co-engineering ensures maximum print head service life, consistently high print quality, and proven label and tag performance in demanding real-world environments. Intermec printers and media are complemented by our 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 printers.

For more information

Contact Intermec for more information on robust blood bag identification.



Company Name
123 Your Street
City, State Zip
123.456.7890
info@YourURL.com
www.YourURL.com



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