The Flow-Rite® Crown ink dispensing cartridge is available with a choice of two dispensing spouts, each delivering optimum dispensing performance. The Crown spout is designed for automatic ink dispensing systems. Its distinctive shape keeps the system clean by discouraging the build-up of ink. Working with the valve system, the Crown spout ensures accurate ink delivery to the ink well.

The second choice is an extended spout for use with manual handgun dispensing. The elongated spout facilitates filling hard-to-reach ink wells. The advanced technology of the Flow-Rite Crown ink dispensing cartridge ensures ink remains fresh and flowable throughout storage and dispensing so performance on press is maximized.

### Specifications

- **Outside diameter:** 5.10 in/130 mm
- **Height:**
  - 5 lbs: 9.08 in/230 mm
  - 8 lbs: 13.75 in/349 mm
- **Capacity:**
  - 5 lbs: 76 oz/2250 ml
  - 8 lbs: 122 oz/3600 ml
- **Ink capacity:**
  - 5 lbs: 5 lbs/2.27 kg*
  - 8 lbs: 8 lbs/3.63 kg*
- **Purge residual:** < 2%
- **Compatible with:** Automatic ink systems (Sentinel®), Sonoco ReadyFlow® dispensers and other hand-held devices

* Designed for use with Sentinel® automated ink systems† and hand-held dispensers.

† Sentinel is a registered trademark of Pemarco Global Graphics

* Depending on ink density

Ask about Sonoco ReadyFlow hand-held dispensers.
Spout

There are two choices of spouts:
• Extended spout for hand-held dispensing in hard-to-reach ink wells.
• The Crown spout for automatic dispensing systems. The innovative design keeps the dispensing system clean while working with the cartridge’s valve system to ensure precise ink delivery into the ink well.
• Easy-to-remove transport and protection cap guards against leakage during shipment.

Valve

• Self-closing valve ensures the cartridge stays closed when not in use.
• Spring-loaded design controls ink flow via a variable opening adjusted by air pressure on the plunger.

Cartridge

• Flat end allows for easy automated and manual filling and storage in the nozzle-down position.
• The multiple layer composite construction increases performance:
  • Label – Ink-resistant coating that can be wiped clean. For large orders, label can be printed for identification or branding purposes.
  • Body – Made of 100% recycled paperboard for strength and durability, ensuring the cartridge retains its shape and optimizes performance during dispensing, shipping and storage.
  • Liner – The double-layer liner includes a polymer-based layer that allows the plunger to slide easily inside the cartridge. A foil layer protects the ink from moisture and oxidation, thus increasing the shelf life of the ink, whether the cartridge is full or partially used.
• The unique patent-pending shape and textured design of the plunger displaces unwanted air. Stackable design for automatic systems.
• Transparent plunger allows user to see if all air has been removed after filling. Available in a solid color to protect UV inks.

For more information contact Ben Gore: benny.gore@sonoco.com.
First introduced in 1999, Sonoco’s Flow-Rite® ink dispensing cartridge has revolutionized the printing industry, creating a new standard for the storage and dispensing of ink. The Sonoco Plunger Inserter is the ideal product to use plungers and to purge air from your Flow-Rite cartridges.

The plunger inserter works with all Sonoco ink cartridges including the larger 5- and 8-pound Flow-Rite original and Crown cartridges as well as smaller 4.4-pound Flow-Rite Exact cartridges. Changing from large to small cartridge size is as simple as screwing on a plunger holder and flipping in two spacer bars. An adjustable timer allows you to continue filling the next cartridge while the plunger is being inserted. The machine is also equipped with a two-handed activation feature and a convenient stop button on the front for added operator safety.

For more information contact Ben Gore: benny.gore@sonoco.com.
Technical Tips

Filling, Storing and Using Flow-Rite® Cartridges

Cartridge arrival

Flow-Rite® ink cartridges are packed with the dispensing end facing the top of the box. Be sure to open the box with the Sonoco address in the upright position in order to keep debris created by vibration during shipment from entering the cartridges.

Store cartridges in a dry environment. Once cartridges are wet, performance is decreased.

Filling cartridges

For optimum shelf life, it is important that the plunger be installed below the flanged area at the end of the cartridge and the inside top of the cartridge walls be kept free from ink. When filling cartridges from a rolling mill, cut off the flow from the delivery tray prior to removing the cartridge. Flow-Rite original and Crown cartridges can be filled up to 2 inches from the top of the cartridge.

The Exact cartridge can be filled with ink up to 2-1/2 inches from the top. This will allow a space of at least 1/4-inch from the top of the plunger to the top flanged area of the cartridge.

Original and Crown Flow-Rite cartridges

For the original and Crown Flow-Rite cartridges only, an air vent strip can be used to assist with the removal of air between the plunger and ink when sealing the plunger at the top of the cartridge. Use a smooth, soft plastic insert strip that is less than 3/64-inch (1.15-mm) thick, 3/16-inch (4.67-mm) wide or less and around 3.75 inches (95-mm) long. A good air vent strips is the Ty-Rap made by Thomas & Betts (catalog number TY523MX). These are smooth, European style cable ties. Also, string trimmer plastic cord with a diameter of 0.065-inch or smaller is acceptable. Remember, it does not take much to let air out during plunger insertion, but you must use something soft and plastic that will not damage or deform the plunger and/or cartridge.

* Ty-Rap is a registered trademark of Thomas & Betts Corporation.

For more information contact Ben Gore: benny.gore@sonoco.com.
Exact cartridge plunger insertion

Inserting the plunger into the Exact cartridge requires a different technique than the original and Crown cartridges. Using a vent strip is not recommended! The ink cartridges have a built-in self-venting feature. Please keep ink off cartridge sides for maximum performance. For the Exact cartridge, it is important to remove all air uniformly under the plunger. This requires 125 pounds of force and takes about 25 seconds. Using the Sonoco pneumatic plunger inserter, this is achieved with a 2-inch air cylinder and 40 psi.

If another style pneumatic plunger inserter is used, measure the diameter of the air cylinder to determine the pressure needed to get 125 pounds of force.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cylinder diameter (in)</th>
<th>Air pressure (PSI)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>71 – Sentinel® unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>40 – Sonoco unit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information contact Ben Gore: benny.gore@sonoco.com.