

Instructions for working with Sofftee on a 50/50 shirt*

- Prepare shirt for high temperature pressing by using a lint remover over areas to be pressed (eliminate blue dots);
- Actual temperature of press should be 380° (verify with heat gun);
- If 2 sided imaging is being done then you **MUST** "dress the press" (place shirt on press so that imaged side is below lower platen..... colour will migrate if reheated under press);
- Side being imaged must be sandwiched with Teflon sheets. do not use blowout paper. You can tape one Teflon sheet to heavy cardstock and place this between layers of shirt;
- Heavy pressure must be used, set your pressure at 80 to 90 pounds;
- Dry your paper (with hair dryer) before printing and before pressing to eliminate any moisture from paper;
- Make sure press has cycled several times at operating temperature to insure adequate heat.
- Press prep sheet at 380° for approximately 50 seconds when starting and may reduce time to 40 seconds if temperature reaches 380° at end of pressing time. (important for temperature to get to, or close to 380° during pressing cycle)
- Immediately peel prep sheet from shirt (starting at top of shirt is easiest) and then stretch shirt from top to bottom and from side to side. (this will make sure polymer coating surrounds each fiber of shirt and will give a softer hand to finished shirt)
- Press paper with sublimation ink for 60 seconds using same high pressure ... removes paper and place shirt to one side.
- If press is not reaching 380° then increase pressing time. **VERY IMPORTANT** first wash should be done in **cold water** with mild (if any) detergent in order to help "set" image into fabric.. Using **HOT** water and harsh detergents can **shorten the life of any imaged shirt**.
- There will be about a 3 to 5% colour loss after first washing, and also any "feel" to shirt will disappear after first washing. Both as a result of shirt not being 100% polyester.. prep sheet will not make shirt 100% polyester and therefore some of image will come off in first wash.
- Fruit of the Loom 50/50 and Gilden 50/50 were used with excellent long lasting results

• *This instruction sheet is prepared based on experiments of one our clients who is one of the pioneers of sublimation process.*