

# **Understanding the Basics of Direct Contact Printing**

Direct Contact printing from an engraved print wheel is one of the preferred methods for identifying continuously run or extruded materials. This method is ideal for printing repetitive text, certification codes, logos, numbers, stripes, etc. on insulated wire, cable, hose, tubing and extruded profiles.

\*In most cases the printing surface must be smooth and dry.

## **Entry Level Friction Driven Printers**

Friction driven printers (driven by traction) require the continual movement of the insulated wire, cable, hose or tubing to rotate the print wheel. Friction driven printers are not equipped with ink pump and designed for low speed applications. Versatile designs allow for both in-line (extrusion) or off-line (re-spooling) applications.

\* Offset (Indirect) printers are available for marking on uneven surfaces.

## Friction Driven Printers with Ink Pump & HS Wiping System

The addition of an ink pump and high speed wiping system to a friction driven printer will dramatically improve its print speed capabilities.

## **Electronically Driven Printers with Ink Pump & HS Wiping System**

Electronically driven printers are designed to accurately detect the line speed, thereby overcoming the friction associated with wiping the surface of the print wheel. This feature reduces the challenges associated with printing on smaller diameter products that are sensitive to contact or tend to elongate during the printing process. Depending on the printing application, electronically driven printers are capable of running at all speeds up to 4,800 fpm.

#### Additional features available on Electronically Driven Printers

Print simulation setup allows the operator to completely prepare the machine for printing in manual mode under simulated operating speeds and conditions prior to running the product.

Synchronized stroboscope will automatically adjust to the line speed, allowing the operator to examine the print legend during high speed operation.

Viscosity control unit monitors the ink and automatically dispenses extender (solvent) as required to maintain ink at pre-set levels.

#### **RSD GROUP USA**