



In August, 2008 the Poly One Corporation announced a line of “Non-Phthalate” ink at a major trade show. Epic inks are Eco Passport certified (OEKO-Tex 100 Standard). After a month of testing, AOV has made the commitment to use these inks in all of it’s screen printing going forward. Here’s some background info;

<p>What are Phthalates? They are a class of commonly used plasticizers used to create a flexible plastic film. They add flexibility, softness, and elongation. They are used in cosmetics to bind the fragrance to the product.</p> <p>Where else are Phthalates used? Nail Polish - often used to make nail polish chip-resistant. Plastics in the kitchen. Vinyl toys - Phthalates are what make vinyl (PVC) toys soft. Paints and other hobby products may contain phthalates as solvents. Lawn furniture, garden hoses, building materials, some raincoats, shower curtains. Human testing by the federal government finds phthalates in almost all of the population, with the highest levels in children ages 6 to 11 years and in women (CDC 2005 Indoor Air).</p>	<p>What are the health risks? Depending on the level of exposure, phthalates have been linked to: 1- Phthalates are a group of chemicals, some of which have endocrine-disrupting properties, meaning that they can disturb normal hormonal processes, often at low levels of exposure. (IEPA 2000). 2- Exposure to phthalates is linked to birth defects of the genitals and altered levels of reproductive hormones in baby boys. An increased breast cancer risk is also suspected (Main 2006, Swan 2005, Marsee 2006). Phthalates in building products have also been linked to asthma. (Mendell, 2007) 3- DINP (one type of phthalate) is commonly used as an additive in children’s toys. Studies have demonstrated possible links between DINP and adverse impacts on the reproductive system, kidneys, liver, and blood.</p>
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Are these inks more expensive? Do they perform the same? Yes, Epic inks cost about 30% more; however AOV will not charge more. The look, feel and performance is just like the inks we’ve always used.

Are all colors available? Yes, we will be able to provide a match to virtually any Pantone color. Below are the standard colors we offer:

108	172	208	296	2925	7488
137	485	1817	2768	3262	4705
1375	199	240	2728	321	4625
148	200	2665	2736	347	428
1655	194	269	299	342	430

If you have any questions, please call. We’re excited about our move to this new generation of ink and believe you and your customers will feel the same.