

Timber identification

(grading, branding, marking, printing) with

apsolute ^{VI}



- Significant references available
- Simple but competent
- Zero service
- Zero downtime
- Consistent high resolution
- No flammable liquids
- Low carbon footprint



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MARKING

Ink-redible machine leaves its mark

WORDS LIKE zero, zilch, nothing, nil and nought are a regular part of Andrew Sharp's vocabulary when he talks about their new thermal inkjet printer, Apsolute. The Apsolute is marketed as a zero maintenance, zero downtime option for printing variable information onto products on production lines. "It's a machine that can be utilised in almost every facet of the forestry and timber industry and it has been moving into the field for some time now," he says.

Andrew has been in the business for 25 years and says the Apsolute really has been designed for trouble-free use.

"Apsolute is a printer that we developed in our head office in Germany," says Andrew. "It came about through developments in the early 2000s. In the 10 or so years that we have been in the timber industry, printers have changed dramatically but at the end of it all none of the core concerns from the customers were being addressed ... reliability, no maintenance, simple to use ... those issues had never been addressed," he says.

"Therefore, we looked to design and provide a printer to manufacturers that addressed their real concerns and Apsolute was the result of that," says Andrew.

Apsolute is a no-moving parts printer that guarantees production line efficiency. It is a mono-fluid printer, meaning the only fluid it uses is ink, which is dispensed through an inkjet cartridge. "We heavily promote our

water-based inks," says Andrew, managing director of Brisbane-based APS.

"We provide a printer that has no service or maintenance requirements. When you use those terms most people look at you and their eyes become a little glazed over because they don't really believe you.

"The significant feature of the Apsolute printer is that it provides a solution for these clients and it addresses their needs.

"Another critical point ... most of the people who use these machines are not based in mainland cities; they're in remote areas, therefore, selling people complex equipment that has a significant service component is not warranted.

"There are no moving parts and therefore no maintenance required. For remote companies this means no downtime, no servicing, visits from service engineers etc... a nice piece of hardware," Andrew says.

TIJ (thermal inkjet) technology is a simple, maintenance free, environmentally friendly option for timber mills. It allows millers to provide their customers a high res marking solution to their determined standards.

"Over the past five years a number of mills in Australia have replaced their existing DOD and CIJ technologies with the TIJ technology provided with Apsolute. The most significant statistic for these installations is that they no longer experience a service visit every 2-3 weeks. With the TIJ Apsolute installed, there has been no service visit for three years."

