



**Southern Lamps Inc.**  
*UV & Specialty Supplies*

# FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**We want you to get the most out of your UV lamps,  
so here are some **answers** to a few popular questions:**

## **Q. WHY DO YOU NEED TO WAIT FOR LAMPS TO COOL BEFORE RESTARTING?**

- A.** When a lamp is turned off, charge carriers are lost when ions and electrons recombine. However, when the lamp is still hot, atoms in the lamp are moving around quickly and this leads to high impedance of the electrons when trying to restart the lamp.

## **Q. WHAT IS THE OPTIMUM OPERATING TEMPERATURE FOR LAMPS?**

- A.** Mercury Lamps = 700°C    Metal-Halide Lamps = 800°C

## **Q. HOW OFTEN SHOULD REFLECTORS BE CHANGED?**

- A.** It is recommended that reflectors should be changed whenever the lamp is changed, or sooner if they are dirty or damaged. Reflectors are extremely important, so should be checked and maintained regularly since most of the curing power of the lamp comes from the reflected radiation.

## **Q. WHAT IS DEVITRIFICATION?**

- A.** Devitrification is a process where fused quartz of the lamp body begins to change its structure to a crystalline form. This can start to occur when:
- The lamp is submitted to excessively high temperatures
  - Run lamps with sufficient cooling
  - Ensure powers and currents are no higher than those recommended
  - Catalyzed by chemical impurities on the lamp body such as oils secreted by the skin
  - Wear gloves while handling lamps
  - Clean the lamp body with an alcohol wipe such as isopropyl alcohol before use

## **Q. WHY DO WE USE UV INKS/COATINGS/ADHESIVES?**

- A.** Because:
- UV substrates do not contain solvents and volatile organic compounds (conventional substrates have 40%)
  - They prevent drying/sticking to printers overnight
  - They are space efficient, with a low starting/cleaning time
  - Traditional solvent-based inks take a long time to dry; curing with UV is instant
  - UV lamps are more energy efficient than heaters/driers
  - They give an improved quality of ink/polymer/resin substrate and cure

**FOR ORDERS OR MORE DETAILS,  
PLEASE CONTACT US TODAY!**

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