

# Application Guide: #PG-552

## Application Guide

### Wet Application Method (Recommended)

Allow the printed graphic to dry 24 hrs. or longer (depending upon ink coverage)

Lamination is optional, but can protect if the graphic is going to be cleaned often and also helps during installation (handling) because thicker graphics are easier to apply. If using a laminate, an optically clear one is recommended.

Transfer Tape is a must! With tape you can squeegee and reduce the risk of scratching. This helps to eliminate bubbles/water entrapment by creating a thicker graphic. Using a paper application tape means you can wet it afterwards and it will remove easier. Clear application tapes will work, but you may need to allow drying time before removing it. Removing too early could result in the graphic coming off the glass and/or stretching.

Use an approved commercial based application fluid. Spray the surface of the substrate. "Mist" the adhesive side of the graphic. Wet graphic printed surface. Apply to the window and squeegee out all fluids. We recommend a suede tipped/Teflon squeegee for wet applications; to prevent scratches.

### Application Fluids

Soap & Water Mixture - although an accepted practice, you should take caution when using dishwashing soap. It may be economical, but dish soap has detergents and are not designed to be used with vinyl media. There may be soap surfactants that will interfere with adhesion and too many soapy bubbles can be difficult to squeegee out of an applied decal as well.

Application Fluids (preferred method) can be very useful when you have an aggressive adhesive. 1. Marabu Action Tac works as a cleaner and application fluid. It works on all vinyl grades. 2. Marabu Window Juice - surface must be clean before use. Can be used to apply the graphic as well as remove the transfer tape (spraying it after application to moisten). 3. Marabu Splash - surface must be clean before use. Mix with water. 4. Rapid Tac - cleans the surfaces as well as allowing the film to "float" until it is properly positioned. 5. Rapid Tac II - Works great for glass applications and colder applications 20° F to 140° F. Works with economy calendered, intermediate calendered, high performance calendered, metallic, reflective, polyester, Mylar and other specialty films). 6. Sure Glide - has an adhesive activator which helps set adhesive and speed drying time when applying on metal and other hard surfaces.

The key is not to use too much application fluid. The more fluid you use, the more fluid you will have to squeegee out, which can be labor intensive and harder to do. Fluid removal will ensure maximum bond.

### Printing/Loading Tips

This product may require the use of output platen covers. Without these the media may appear to stick to the platen (this seems like static, but is the vacuum holding it) and fold over. You can purchase this accessory at any HP distributor and it can be used on other media as well (such as fabrics).