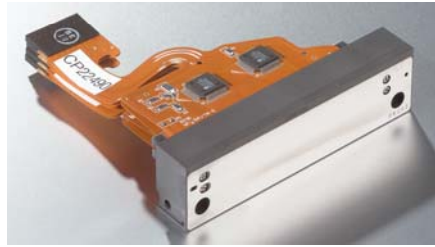


For Immediate Release:

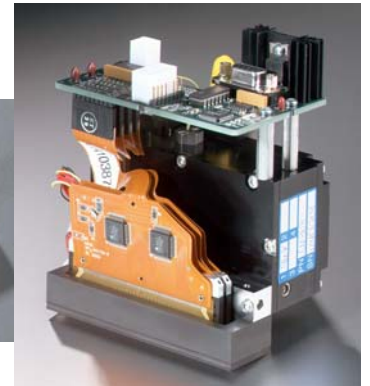
Lebanon, NH – February 2, 2004

Spectra Announces the Introduction and Release of the Nova JA 256/80 AAA and the Nova PH 256/80 AAA

New Jetting Assembly and Printhead have versatile design to support broader fluid types including aqueous formulations



Nova JA 256/80 AAA



Nova PH 256/80 AAA

Spectra Inc., a worldwide leader in the design, development and manufacture of precision piezoelectric ink jet printheads, announced today the introduction and commercial release of its latest jetting assembly, the Nova JA 256/80 AAA and its companion printhead, the Nova PH 256/80 AAA.

The Nova AAA products provide support for a wide variety of ink types including aqueous, organic solvent and UV curable formulations. The high performance design makes it ideal for use in a broad range of industrial marking, textile and wide format graphics printing applications.

The compactness of the Nova AAA facilitates machine designs requiring the use of multiple printheads in tightly packed arrays. Additionally, several mounting orientations and resolutions are possible, providing customers with great flexibility in terms of design architectures and drop placement.

Similar to previous products in the popular Nova family, the new products comprise 256 individual jets, controlled by four independent piezoelectric elements, each with 64 addressable channels. The jetting assembly contains serial-to-parallel converters for selecting which jets to fire. The nozzles are arranged in a single line and each jet can be addressed either individually or simultaneously to deliver a 75 picoliter calibrated drop volume.

“Nova AAA, with its superb drop volume and velocity uniformity as well as outstanding jet-straightness and ability to support a wide range of fluid types, is designed for a very long service life. Customers will find our new jetting assembly and printhead to be rugged, reliable, and low maintenance,” commented Per Frost, Vice President of Marketing and Sales. “The Nova AAA provides performance improvements to existing Nova customers, as well as greater support for all new aqueous-based graphics, textile and marking applications.”

Fluids enter the AAA printhead version through an onboard reservoir, which has an integrated filter, fluid level sensor and Spectra’s patented de-aeration technology. The unit’s dual ported fluid interface design facilitates flushing for quick change-over and for displacing inks with inert fluid during periods of non-use.

Provisions for fluid temperature control have been incorporated. Units can be supplied with a temperature sensing thermistor and heater cartridges for precise control of fluid viscosity.

SPECTRA PRESS RELEASE

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Spectra is a leading developer and manufacturer of state-of-the-art piezoelectric ink jet printheads and related hardware used in a wide range of applications, such as coding and marking, graphic arts, wide format graphics and display manufacturing. Based in Lebanon, New Hampshire, USA, Spectra has developed multiple generations of proprietary drop-on-demand ink jet printheads capable of producing high performance digital images and precision depositing. Spectra invests heavily in research and development and maintains one of the most capable ink jet R&D groups in the world.

For more information:

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