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Technical bulletin

New Film Roller for ThermoFlex Wide II

The ThermoFlex® Wide II output device is capable of imaging selected film types and sizes. The film roller is a quick-connect, hand-operated accessory that is used to load film onto the drum. It applies an even pressure to the film as the film is wrapped and taped to the drum. After you finish the taping, raise the film roller out of the way and place it into a rest position. You won't need it until you load the next film for imaging.

When there are extended periods of time between use of the film roller, you should take it down and store it inside a pocket located in the lower front panel.

Installation Kit

- Kit 11-1137A

Tools Required

No special tools are required.

Installation of the Film Roller

Install the film roller only when the load/unload table is in the closed position.

> **Important:** Because the film is sensitive to contaminants such as oils from your hands, we strongly recommend that you wear lightweight gloves when installing the film roller. By touching the rubber roller O-rings with your bare hands, you will likely transfer contaminants to the film and affect the quality of your imaging job.

To install the film roller:

1. Insert the hook tabs of the film roller arms into the table slots located on the left and right side of the load/unload table.

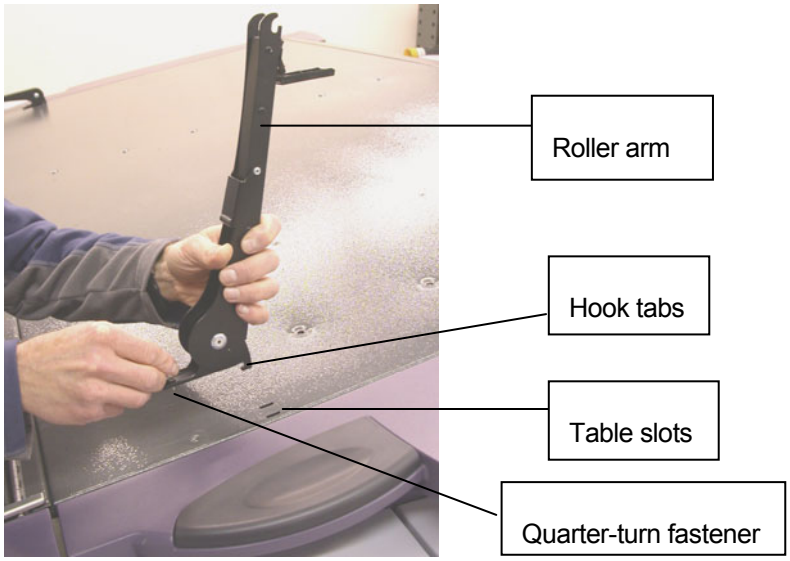


Figure 1: Attaching the roller arm

2. Tighten the quarter-turn fasteners (see Figure 1).
3. Pull the support leg on each film roller arm so that the arm is extended and rests on the load/unload table.

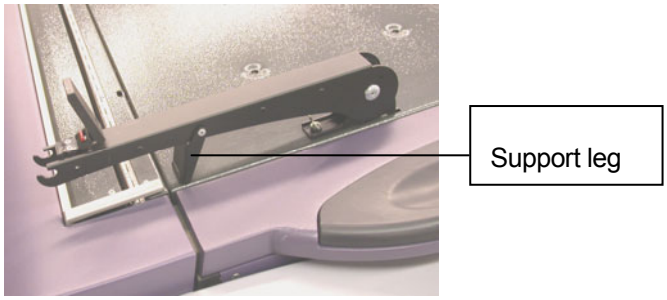


Figure 2: Extending the roller arm

4. Open the draw latches on each film roller arm.

Note: When the roller arms are stored in the front panel pocket, the draw latches should be in a closed position.

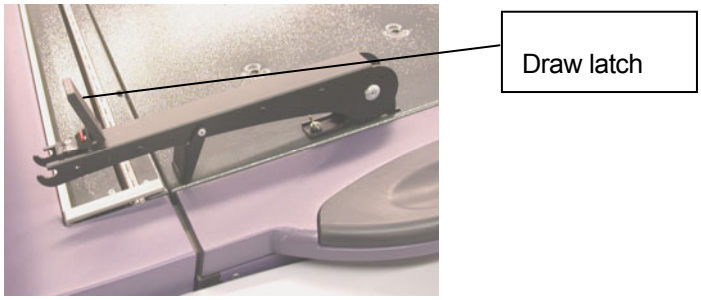


Figure 3: Opening the draw latch

5. Place the roller bar into the open draw latches and snap shut the draw latches.

   The auxiliary roller must be on the right side of the load/unload table.

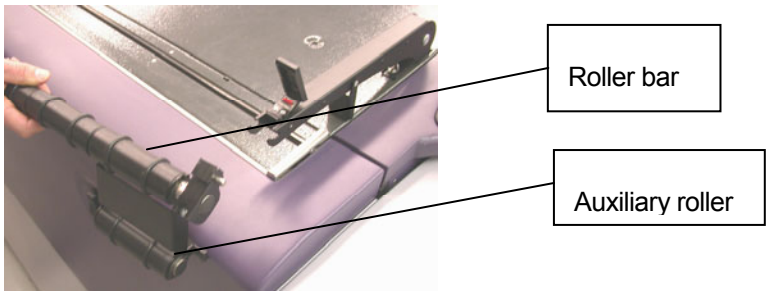


Figure 4: Setting the roller bar

6. Raise the roller bar and the film roller arms to the rest position.



Figure 5: Roller bar at rest position

   The film roller is ready for loading film.

Loading and Imaging Film Using the Film Roller

Use the film roller to manually load film one at a time from the load/unload table onto the drum.

Important: Because the film is sensitive to contaminants such as oils from your hands, we strongly recommend that you wear lightweight gloves when imaging film. By touching the film with your bare hands, you will likely transfer contaminants to it and affect the quality of your imaging job.

To load film media:

1. Ensure the film roller is in its rest position (see Figure 5).
2. Place the film on the load/unload table with the emulsion side up.
3. Align the film with the home-edge registration bar and the leading-edge registration bar.
4. Press the Drum Vac button to activate the drum vacuum.
5. Tape down the leading-edge of the film.
6. Carefully lower the film roller bar onto the film.

   The auxiliary roller automatically presses the film against the home-edge registration end of the drum. This ensures that the trailing-edge of the film does not lift away from the load/unload sensor on the drum and cause an error during the load cycle.



Figure 6: Film with leading-edge taped

7. Push the bottom of two drum control buttons to roll the drum backward. Release the buttons when the film is completely wrapped around the drum and after the drum comes to a stop (it is now in the load position).

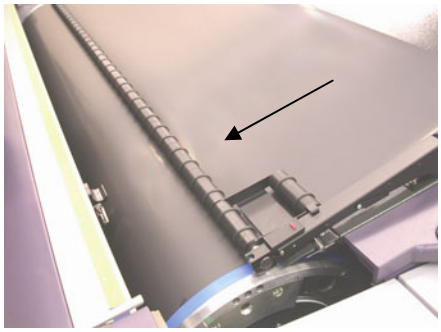


Figure 7: Wrapping film around the drum

8. Raise the roller bar to its rest position.
9. Tape down the trailing-edge of the film.



Figure 8: Ready to tape down trailing-edge

10. Conduct a media inspection.
11. Close the load table.

    The imaging process starts automatically.

To unload the film media:

1. Ensure that the output device has finished imaging.
2. Slide the load/unload table forward.
3. Lift up the flap cover.
4. Remove the trailing-edge tape from the film.
5. Lift up the edge of the film while lowering the flap cover and then lower the film.

   The edge of the film now sits on top of the flap cover.
6. Press the top of two drum control buttons to roll the drum forward until the film is completely on the load/unload table.

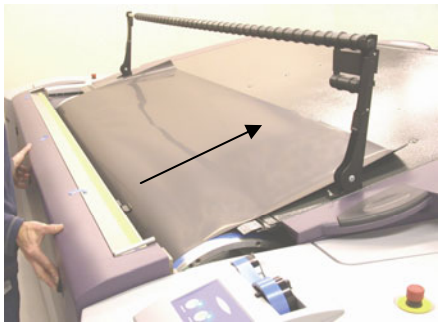


Figure 9: Unwrapping the film from the drum

7. Remove the leading-edge tape from the film.

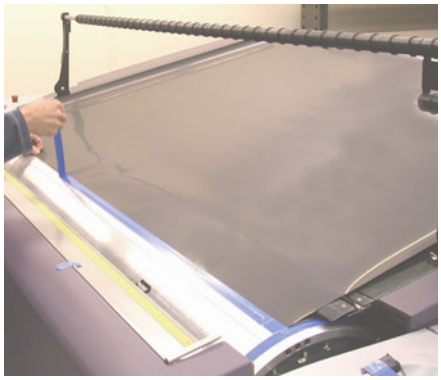


Figure 10: Removing the leading-edge tape

8. Move the film fully onto the load/unload table.
9. Press the Drum Vac button to turn off the drum vacuum and the table float.
10. Move the film to an exposure table.

Troubleshooting

1. With the roller bar attached, the arms do not move parallel with one another or the roller bar does not rest evenly against the drum.

Cause: The roller shaft has slipped inside one of the knuckle clamps or the knuckle clamps are not aligned prior to tightening.

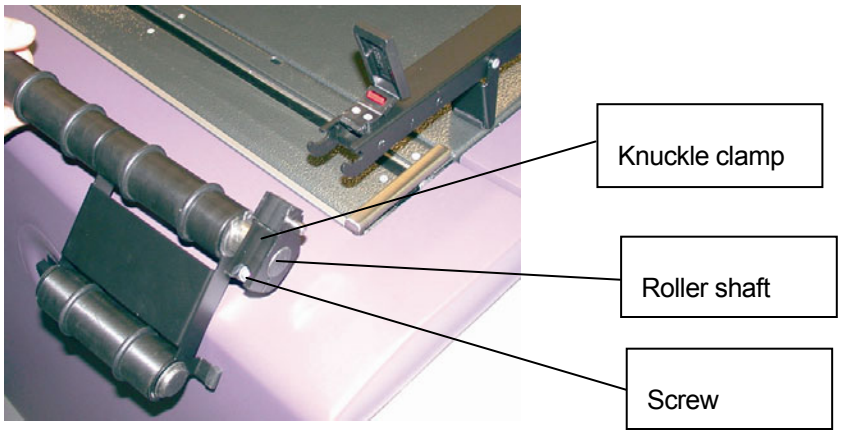


Figure 11: Knuckle clamp assembly

Solution: The knuckle clamps need to be realigned and tightened.

To realign and tighten the knuckle clamps:

a. Close the load/unload table to protect the drum.

b. Lower each roller arm and extend the support leg.

c. Tighten the right knuckle clamp.

Thread the screw until its washer makes contact with the plastic clamp. Tighten to a maximum of three-quarters of a turn. This equates to approximately 12 lbf-in or 1.4 N-M.

As well, the knuckle clamp should be flush with the end of the roller shaft.

d. Roughly align the left knuckle clamp with the right knuckle clamp and lightly tighten.

e. Support the roller bar with one hand and latch the right knuckle clamp into the right draw latch.

f. Loosen the left knuckle clamp.

g. Rotate the left knuckle clamp and then latch it into the left draw latch.

h. Tighten the left knuckle clamp.

2. One or more of the rollers is not rolling easily when the drum is turned.

Cause: The retaining clips on each end of the roller shaft are too close together. There is not enough clearance between each roller bar (each roller bar is approximately 4 inches to 5 inches in length).

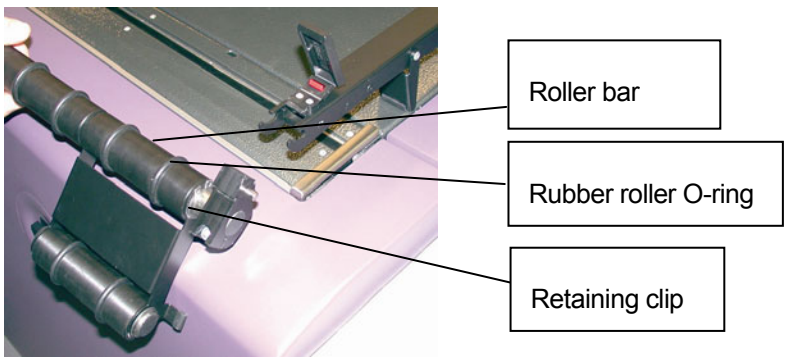


Figure 12: Retaining clip assembly

Solution: If a roller bar cannot roll without binding with an adjacent roller bar, then you will need to increase the core clearance between the roller bars by repositioning the retaining clips on the roller shaft.

To reposition the retaining clips:

a. Check the position of the right clip.

   There should be 32 mm from the end of the roller shaft to the first roller bar. Use a pair of external snap ring pliers suitable for use with self-locking retaining rings (for example, Rotor Clip tool #RP-1540) to move the right retaining clip to its correct position.

b. If required, temporarily remove the knuckle clamps (see Troubleshooting #1).

c. Reposition the left retaining clip to allow a fraction of a mm between each roller bar.

   Do this by sliding all the roller bars toward the right retaining clip. Set the left retaining clip so that there is 2 mm clearance between the end of the roller shaft and the inside face of the left retaining clip.

d. If previously removed, realign and tighten the knuckle clamps (see Troubleshooting #1).

3. Marks or scratches are left on the film by the rubber roller O-rings.

Cause: The rubber roller O-rings have dirt, grease, oil, or some other foreign particle on them and this contaminant is being transferred to the film. Also, if the roller bars do not roll independently, they will bind. The extra drag caused by an adjacent roller may cause the film to skid past the rubber roller O-rings, leaving marks.

Solution 1: Clean the dirt from the rubber roller O-rings.

To clean the rubber roller O-rings:

- Wipe all dirty rubber roller O-rings with a clean, soft, lint-free cloth moistened with warm water.

Solution 2: Reposition the retaining clips to prevent binding.

To reposition the retaining clips:

- Perform the procedure from Troubleshooting #2.

4. The film does not have a good surface contact with the drum and there may be bumps, bubbles, or ridges on the film.

Cause: There is dirt or other foreign particles on the surface of the drum, the underside of the film, or on the table. Also, the film may be skidding past the rubber roller O-rings or the leading-edge of the film may not be properly taped to the drum.

Solution 1: Inspect for dirt or other foreign particles.

To inspect loaded media:

- See "*Inspecting Loaded Media*" in the *ThermoFlex Wide II Sheet Mode Operator Guide*.

Solution 2: Reposition the roller retaining clips to prevent skidding.

To reposition the retaining clips:

- Perform the procedure from Troubleshooting #2.

Solution 3: Register and tape the film correctly.

To load media:

- See "*Loading and Imaging Media*" in the *ThermoFlex Wide II Sheet Mode Operator Guide*.

About Creo

Creo is a world leader in solutions for the graphic arts industry. Core product lines include image capture systems; inkjet proofers; thermal imaging devices for films, plates, and proofs; professional color and copydot scanning systems; workflow management software; and proofing and printing consumables. Creo is also an original equipment manufacture supplier of on-press imaging technology, components for digital presses, and color servers for high-speed, print-on-demand digital printers. Creo trades under the symbols CREO on NASDAQ and CRE on the Toronto Stock Exchange. www.creo.com

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