



3.2.4. Clean the Bottom of the Print Bars and Check Cap Plates

Estimated Frequency	Estimated Time	Press Down	Suggested Personnel
Weekly	30 minutes	YES	2 people (Minimize the amount of time the pens are uncapped.)
Objective			
To remove ink and ink aerosol from the bottom plate of the print bars, and prevent ink from transferring to the paper.			
Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs)		Tools/Materials	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rubber gloves		<ul style="list-style-type: none">Lint-free clothsDeionized (DI) or distilled water	

 **IMPORTANT!** You are **REQUIRED** to wear rubber gloves (ink handling) and safety glasses when working around open ink containers, or when handling items that are exposed to ink. This is necessary to minimize ink contamination, reduce chemical exposure and stains, and prevent slippage.

 **IMPORTANT!** **DO NOT CROSS-CONTAMINATE** the ink with Bonding Agent while cleaning! Use separate wipes and gloves for Bonding Agent and the rest of the inks!

Procedure

1. From the Operator Control Panel, move the print bars to a wipe-ready position.
2. Ensure the pens are uncapped.
3. Open the drive side printbar access doors to prevent movement on the print bars.
4. From the Operator Control Panel, put the PECS in Sleep Mode.
5. E-stop the press.
6. Saturate a lint-free cloth with DI water.
7. Wipe the bottom of each print bar until all ink is removed.

 **IMPORTANT!** Do not contact the printheads—this can damage the printhead!

8. From the drive side, push the wipe cassette out of the way—toward the center of the print bar. This gives you better access to the print bars.

Inspect and Clean the Pen Caps on the Cap Plate

9. Access the cap plates from the operator side of the press.
10. Using a light source inspect the cap seals.
11. Ensure the cap seals are present and are properly fastened at the four corners. See [Figure 10](#).



Figure 10. Cap plate seal not properly attached

12. If the cap seal is damaged, replace it.
13. If the cap seals have an accumulation of ink or BA in them they must be cleaned.



IMPORTANT!

DO NOT CROSS-CONTAMINATE the Bonding Agent cap plate seals with colored cap plate seals! Wipes and gloves must be changed when moving between Bonding Agent seals and the colored ink seals!

14. Moisten a lint-free cloth with DI water.
15. Wipe the seals until they are clean.
16. When a cap plate inspection is completed ensure the cap seals are properly fastened at the four corners. See [Figure 10](#) for an example of an improperly sealed cap plate.
17. Close the press access doors.
18. Reset the E-stops.
19. Ensure the pens are recapped.