## **Squeegee Function**

## Four Functions:

- 1.Ink will be transfered to the printing stock through the screen mesh.
- 2. Scrape off the redundant ink on the screen mesh.
- 3. Keep the line contact between the screen mesh and the printing stock.
- 4. Print different shape printing stock.

Presswork will print the high quality product, only the squeegee of the four functions have a good play. The squeegee of physical properties play a decisive part in these four functions. When we choose the squeegee, we should consider full the squeegee property on the influence of the above functions, and avoid the bad influence for the printing effect.

### Hardness Choice

Low Hardness Squeegee: Generally speaking 45A-65A are the low hardness squeegee, It is suitable for low viscosity ink, irregular objects and rough ink pad. The hardness lower, the ink pile bigger. The fineness of printing graph is moderate. It is usually used in large area colour picture, glass, ceramics and so on.

Medium Hardness Squeegee:70A-75A are the medium hardness squeegee,75A is the most widely used. It is used for all kinds of screen mesh and ink, make the ink accumulation good and resolution high. It also can be used in printing for all kinds of material.

High Hardness Squeegee:Hardness range is 80A-95A, It is widely used in high printing pressure and high ink viscosity. The ink accumulation will be samll , and the resolution will be high, when we use the high hardness squeegee. Generally it is used in fine printing. The high hardness squeegee can be better scraped off the redundant ink on the screen mesh, but it is not good enough to meet different shape printing stock's demands.

# Storage

The squeegee must be packed good, when we store it long-term. It will avoid the sunlight or other contain ultraviolet direct ray, otherwise it will accelerate the squeegee's ageing. Try to store it flat, If you must roll it up, please make it backscrolling.

# Maintain

Don't put the squeegee into ink or solvent, when we don't use it. Solvent type ink need to prepare 2-3 sets of squeegee, we can take turns to use on the next day, It will extend the squeegee service life. We need to fully clean the ink and thinner, when we don't use the squeegee. Use the water-absorbing softcloth to dry the squeegee after cleanning it, and keep it flat.

### Notes

When we choose the squeegee,we need to observe if the appearance is neat, surface smooth without impurity and bubble, knife edge is flat and smooth, elasticity and toughness are good.

The knife edge is an important part in finishing bring into playing the four functions of the squeegee. The sharpness of the squeegee is a factor in initial control inking. The sharp squeegee can

supply the minmum inking and fine pattern. The blunt and round knife edge will increase inking and affect the colour and the fineness of line at the same time.

The squeegee which is finished cleaning is still soft, the solvent volatilizes incompletely, so we don't grind it immediately. We can use it again after 12 hours to 24 hours of "repairing". It can not only improve the grinding effect also can improve the printing effect, we should try to reduce the grinding quantity when grinding, it can be grinding many times and repeated use.