

UV intensity Labels and UV Fastcheck Strips: Which one is right for me?

A common question we get asked is "what is the difference between the UV Intensity Labels and the UV Fastcheck strips ?". This will really depend on what you want to achieve using the labels. The UV Fastcheck Strips are a quick and easy way to take a fast approximate UV exposure measurement, you can check the colour change against the Fastcheck Chart (supplied) and this will give you a good idea of the current UV lamp exposure.

If you have multiple machines or have small parts, the UV intensity labels may be a better option, they are small and can be used to check lamp outputs against a known "good" or "bad" exposure levels and the "good" or "bad sets can be created by the end user.

Both labels are made of the same material and have the same colour changing principle.

The Fastcheck Chart is only useable with the Fastcheck Strips though because of the way the 5 squares change colour with exposure. If you only want a quick way to measure uv exposure, these may be better.

To see the main differences between the two types, please see below.

Size:

The first most obvious difference is that the UV intensity labels consist of a single label compared to the Fastcheck Strips which is a small strip containing 5 coloured squares on a larger label. The sizes are as follows:

- UV FastCheck[™] Strips Dimensions: 1/2"H x 2-1/8"W (13mm x 54mm)
- The UV Intensity Labels™ Dimensions: ¾"H x 1"W (19mm x 25mm)
- UV-C Intensity Labels Dimensions: 1/2"H x 3/4"W (12mm x 19mm).



Reading:

The second difference is the UV Fastcheck strips come supplied with a chart enabling you to do a comparison to get a reading based on how the colour has changed after being exposed to UV. The UV FastCheck[™] Chart shows 10 steps at 30mJ, 50mJ, 75mJ, 100mJ, 150mJ 200mJ, 400mJ, 600mJ, 800mJ 1000mJ.

The UV intensity labels do not come with a chart to directly take readings. The idea is that you can use them to create a set of your own known 'good' production conditions. These can then be used to check the and keep track of any changes in lamp output as labels exposed to UV lamps that have lost output will not be the same colour. With a greater UV exposure level, the labels become darker in colour (see below).





After continued UV exposure, the Labels take on a deeper shade of green, eventually reaching their maximum exposure color, solid blue.

Quantity:

The UV Intensity labels are supplied in a pack of 990 labels. There are 9 sheets with 110 labels each. These are supplied in a black wallet.

The UV Fastcheck strips are supplied in a pack of 200 strips. There are 10 sheets with 20 strips per sheet. These are supplied along with the UV Fastcheck Chart in a small red wallet.

Special Types:

For measuring UV C (in the range of 280 – 100 nm) the UV intensity labels are available specially to read UV C lamp outputs compared to broadband UV exposure of the standard labels. These are not available as Fastcheck Strips.

Uses:

Both the UV fastcheck strips and UV intensity labels are perfect for use in systems where other forms of measurement such as a radiometer or lamp monitor probe are not possible or practical. They can be used in a wide range of applications including 3-D curing, web coating and printing, sheet fed printing, container printing, medical sterilization, exposure verification of exposed products and personal uv exposure level testing.

Part Number – Description

N010-005 UV INTENSTY LABELS (990 single labels) **N010-004** UVC INTENSTY LABELS (550 single labels)

N010-002 FASTCHECK STRIP LABELS (200 labels + 1 x Fastcheck Chart) **N010-002A** FASTCHECK STRIP CHART

> Contact information: Telephone +44 (0)1460 61791 Fax +44 (0)1460 67833 Epak Electronics Ltd, Millfield Estate, Chard, Somerset. TA20 2BB. United Kingdom. Sales:<u>sales@epakelectronics.com</u> Website: <u>www.epakelectronics.com</u>