Encoder Specification & Selection Criteria for Inkjet Systems

To select the optimal encoder solution for each unique application, four primary encoder specification categories must be defined: Mechanical, CPR, Environmental, and Interconnect. Some of these variables are predetermined by encoder interface requirements. See chart, bottom of page.

Mechanical: Thru-bore encoders mount directly to the shaft via a collar, and are anchored by a flexible antirotation mount. Their bearings are designed to carry the encoder only. Shaft encoders can carry heavier loads and can be used with a measuring wheel. To define your mechanical requirements, determine the following:

- Space constraints
- Appropriate housing size
- The mounting methods: to a motor, a driven shaft, a conveyor belt, etc.
- Whether or not loads will be applied to bearings
- Whether or not a measuring wheel will be used

Cycles Per Revolution (CPR): CPR specification is commonly provided by the End Customer, Integrator, or someone familiar with the system design and sensing/control requirements. See chart below for minimum CPR requirements.

Environmental: IP50 provides dust protection; IP64 or higher prevents ingress of extremely fine dust or moisture. Specify stainless steel and/or nylon for corrosion resistance when possible.

Interconnect: For distances over 10 feet, select body-mounted connectors for ease of installation and aftermarket service. Intergrated M12 cordsets are available on some models. Flying Leads are offered on all models. For cable lengths exceeding 30 feet, consult EPC Technical Sales Engineers.

Encoder Interface Requirements:

1	Supply Voltage to Encoder	+ 24vdc
2	Encoder Output Type	Open Collector (OC), NPN, or Push Pull (PP) PNP
3	Number of Channels / Encoder Waveform	A & B in Quadrature
4	Max Encoder Frequency Response Output	200kHz
5	Min Encoder CPR	~ 20 pulse/mm linear travel

Useful Definitions and Formulas

FREQUENCY RESPONSE OF ENCODER OUTPUT

Hz = CPR x RPM

60

ENCODER PULSES WITH MEASURING WHEEL

Encoder Pulses/mm =

Encoder CPR

Pulley Diameter (mm) x π

OPEN COLLECTOR



Designated OC in EPC part numbers, this is an NPN type output. It is a current-sinking output that requires pull-up resistors external to the encoder. Typical values are 1.5K to 2.2K. EPC's OC output allows for level shifting, where the encoder signal is pulled up externally to a different voltage.

PUSH PULL



Designated PP in EPC part numbers, this is compatible with PNP circuits and sometimes referred to as a "totem-pole" type of output circuit. When the output is in the logic high state, current is sourced to the load. When the output is in the logic low state, current is sinked from the load.





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