

Sublimation



## What is sublimation and how durable is the Decoral grain effect?

- We are often asked about the durability of Decoral finishes and if the grain effect will peel off, delaminate, or fade.
- We have been applying Decoral finishes since 2004 (20 years) at AMS and the products we have supplied over that duration look as good as they did when they came out of our factory.

## How do we achieve that?

- A Decoral finish is obtained via a sublimation process, which provides a durable range of realistic timber or other finishes.
- The sublimation process transforms the textured base coated hardwearing polyurethane powder into a beautiful, decorated finish.



To obtain the decorated finish the base coated product is inserted into a special ink impregnated purpose sized bag.





Each end of the bag is then attached to a vacuum pump that removes any air between the film and product to be decorated.

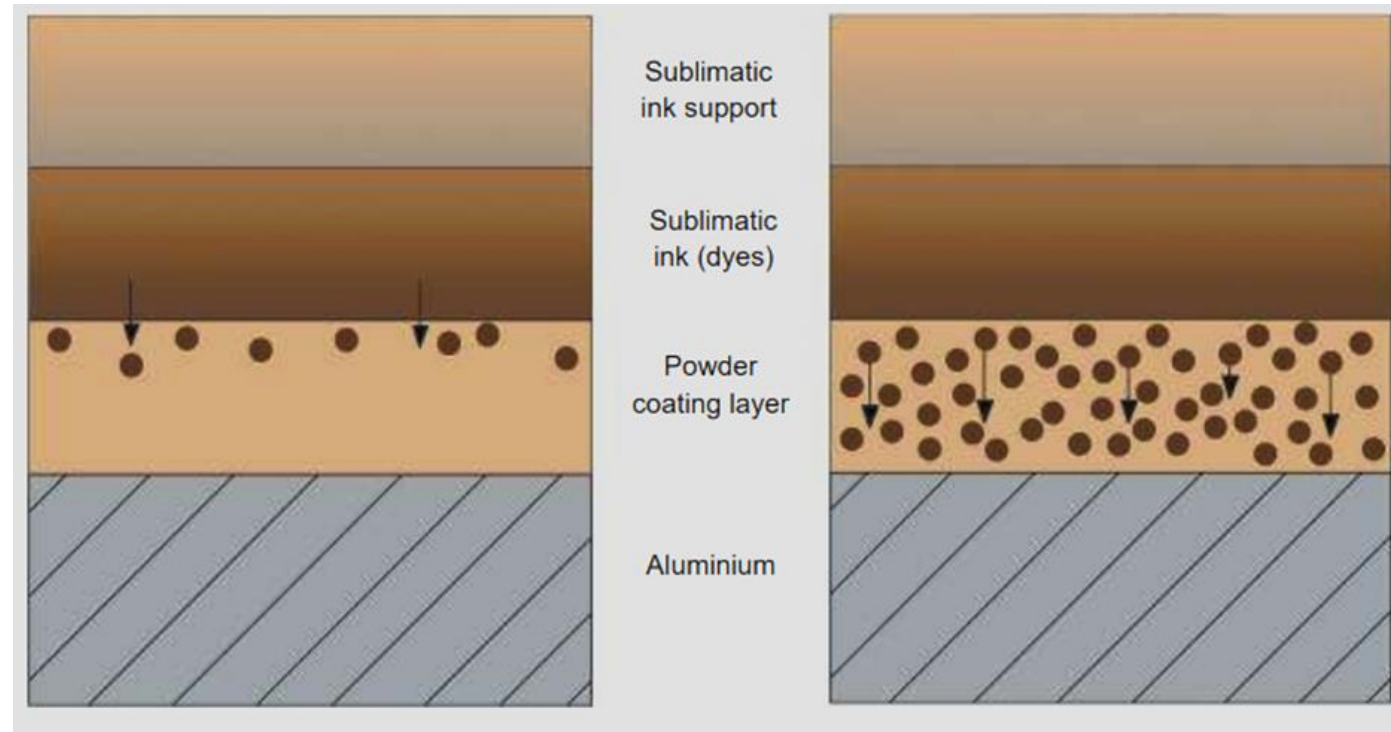


The wrapped product is then heated in a special oven, and this is when the sublimation process occurs.

The ink on the film changes from a solid to a gas, which then permeates throughout the powder coated layer.

Once this has occurred the ink becomes an integral part of the powder coated finish, which means it is highly weather and UV resistant.

As the ink becomes an integral part of the powder coated finish the grain effect cannot be peeled off and has a high scratch resistance.





We have seen huge growth in our sublimation process over the past 10 years in particular, and many of our customers and indeed their customers see the benefit in using a product that needs very little maintenance compared to real wood, is totally recyclable, and has an A2 fire rating.

We can offer this product in over 20 different finishes and the fact that we extrude the aluminium in house means we can give our customers the best possible service with die procurement , extrusion and sublimation, all under one roof.