



HID® FARGO® DTCii Plus

User Guide

PLT-05151, A.1
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Powering
Trusted Identities

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What's new

Date	Description	Revision
December 2020	Minor updates.	A.1

A complete list of revisions is available in [Revision history](#).

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Section **01**

Specifications

1.1 Regulatory compliance

UL	The card printer is listed under UL 60950-1 (2nd edition) Information Technology Equipment File Number: E145118 This product is intended to be supplied by a Listed Power Unit marked Class 2 and rated for 24Vdc, 3.3A minimum.
CSA	The card printer manufacturer has been authorized by UL to represent the card printer as CSA Certified under CSA Standard C22.2 No. 60950-1-07 2nd edition File Number: E145118

1.1.1 Agency listings

Emissions and Immunity Standards	FCC Part 15 Class A, RSS-GEN, RSS 210
Safety Standards	UL IEC 60950-1 (2nd edition), CSA C22.2 No. 60950-1-07 (2nd edition)

1.1.2 United States

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

1. This device may not cause harmful interference.
2. This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Note: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class A digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection against harmful interference when the equipment is operated in a commercial environment. This equipment generates, uses, and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instruction manual, may cause harmful interference to radio communications. Operation of this equipment in a residential area is likely to cause harmful interference; in which case, you are required to correct the interference at your expense.

Important: Changes or modifications to an intentional or unintentional radiator not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

Warning: This product can expose you to chemicals including Diisononyl Phthalate (DINP), which is a known to the State of California to cause cancer. For more information go to  www.P65warnings.ca.gov.

1.1.3 Canada

This device complies with Industry Canada license-exempt RSS standard(s). Operation is subject to the following two conditions: (1) this device may not cause interference, and (2) this device must accept any interference, including interference that may cause undesired operation of the device.

Le présent appareil est conforme aux CNR d'Industrie Canada applicables aux appareils radio exempts de licence. L'exploitation est autorisée aux deux conditions suivantes: (1) l'appareil ne doit pas produire de brouillage, et (2) l'utilisateur de l'appareil doit accepter tout brouillage radioélectrique subi, même si le brouillage est susceptible d'en compromettre le fonctionnement.

1.2 Safety messages - United States

Symbol	Critical instructions for safety purposes
Danger: 	Failure to follow these guidelines results in personal injury or death. To prevent personal injury or death: ■ Reference the following safety messages before performing an operation. ■ Always remove the power cord prior to performing repair procedures, unless otherwise specified. ■ Ensure only qualified personnel perform these procedures.
ESD: 	This device is electrostatically sensitive. You may damage the device if exposing it to static electricity discharges. To prevent damage: ■ Reference the following safety messages before performing an operation. ■ Observe all established Electrostatic Discharge (ESD) procedures while handling cables in or near the circuit board and printhead assemblies. ■ Always wear an appropriate personal grounding device. ■ Always remove the ribbon and cards from the printer before making any repairs, unless otherwise specified. ■ Remove jewelry and thoroughly clean hands before working on the printer.
Caution: 	This symbol warns of an electrical hazard that could result in personal injury or death.
Caution: 	For safety purposes, do not use Ethernet for a direct connection outside of the building.

1.3 Safety messages - French

Symbole	Instructions critiques visant la Sécurité
Danger: 	Si ces directives ne sont pas suivies les résultats peuvent être des lésions corporelles ou la mort. Pour éviter des lésions corporelles ou la mort: ■ Rapportez-vous aux avis suivants de sécurité avant de procéder à une opération. ■ Retirez toujours le câble d'alimentation avant d'effectuer des procédures de réparation, sauf spécification contraire. ■ Assurez-vous qu'uniquement des personnes qualifiées réalisent des procédures.
ESD: 	Ce dispositif est sensible à l'électricité statique. Il peut souffrir des dommages s'il est exposé à des décharges électrostatiques. Pour éviter des dommages: ■ Rapportez-vous aux messages suivants avant de procéder à une opération. ■ Suivez toutes les procédures de Décharges Electrostatiques (ESD) en vigueur durant le maniement des câbles dans ou à proximité des Ensembles de Cartes de Circuit Imprimé et Tête d'Impression. ■ Portez toujours un dispositif de mise à la terre personnelle appropriée. ■ Retirez toujours le ruban et les Cartes de l'Imprimante avant d'effectuer toute réparation, sauf spécification contraire. ■ Retirez tous bijoux et lavez soigneusement vos mains avant de travailler à l'Imprimante.
Attention: 	Ce symbole est un avis de péril électrique passible de résulter en lésion corporelle ou mort.
Attention: 	Pour des motifs de sécurité, n'utilisez pas Ethernet pour une connexion directe hors du bâtiment.

1.4 Technical specifications

Term	Function
Print Method	Dye Sublimation / Resin Thermal Transfer
Print resolution	300 dpi (11.8 dots/mm); continuous tone
Colors	Up to 16.7 million colors / 256 shades per pixel
Print Ribbon Options	Full color with two resin black panels and overlay panel - YMCKOK* (200 prints) Silver metallic resin with overlay panel and resin black panel - SOK* (350 prints) Resin black and overlay panel, KO* (1250 prints) * Indicates the ribbon type and the number of ribbon panels printed where Y=Yellow, M=Magenta, C=Cyan, K=Resin Black, O=Overlay, F=Fluorescing Resin
Print Speed	12 seconds per card (KO*) 24 seconds per card (YMCKOK*) Print speed indicates an approximate batch print speed and is measured from the time a card feeds into the printer to the time it ejects from the printer. Print speeds do not include encoding time or the time needed for the PC to process the image. Process time is dependent on the size of the file, the CPU, amount of RAM and the amount of available resources at the time of the print. * Indicates the ribbon type and the number of ribbon panels printed where Y=Yellow, M=Magenta, C=Cyan, K=Resin Black, O=Overlay, F=Fluorescing Resin
Card Size and Types Supported	CR-80 (3.375" L x 2.125" W / 85.6mm L x 54mm W)
Accepted Standard Card Sizes	CR-80 edge-to-edge (3.36" L x 2.11" W / 85.3mm L x 53.7mm W)
Accepted Card Thickness	.009" - .040" / 9 mil - 40 mil/.229mm - 1.016mm
Accepted Card Types	■ Press polished PVC ■ Laminated PVC (credit card construction) ■ Blank white chip/mag ■ Dual interface MC and/or Visa
Input Hopper Card Capacity	200 cards (.030"/.762 mm)
Output Hopper Card Capacity	100 cards (.030"/.762mm)
Reject Hopper Card Capacity	100 cards (.030"/.762mm)
Card Cleaning	Card cleaning roller integrated into the ribbon cartridge. A new cleaning roller is included with each ribbon cartridge.
Printer Memory	32MB RAM

Term	Function
Operating Systems	Windows Server 2003 Windows Server 2008 Windows Server 2016 Windows Server 2019 Windows 7 (32- and 64 bit) Windows 10 (32- and 64-bit)
Interface	Ethernet with internal print server
Operating Temperature	65° F to 90° F / 18° C to 32°C
Humidity	20-80% non-condensing
Dimensions (with output bin)	9.8"H x 22.9"W x 9.2"D/249mm H x 583mm W x 234mm D
Weight	13 lbs / 6 Kg
Supply Voltage	100-240 VAC, 1.6 A
Supply Frequency	50 Hz / 60 Hz
Warranty	Printer – Three years; Printhead – Three years, unlimited pass with UltraCard®
Encoding Options Supported	(HID Prox) reader 13.56 MHz (iCLASS®, MIFARE, ISO 14443 A/B, ISO 15693) read/write encoder Contact Smart Card Encoder reads from and writes to all ISO7816 1/2/3/4 memory and microprocessor smart cards (T=0, T=1) as well as synchronous cards ISO Magnetic Stripe Encoding, dual high- and low-coercivity, Tracks 1, 2 and 3
Display	Graphical Display

1.5 Functional specifications

This card printer utilizes two different, yet closely related printing technologies to achieve its remarkable card print quality for dye-sublimation and resin thermal transfer.

1.6 Printer components: print ribbons

The card printer utilizes both dye-sublimation and/or resin thermal transfer methods to print images directly onto blank cards. Since the dye-sublimation and the resin thermal transfer print methods each provide their own unique benefits, print ribbons are available in resin-only, dye-sublimation-only and combination dye-sublimation/resin versions.

To make it easier to identify the print ribbons, a letter code has been developed to indicate the type of ribbon panels found on each ribbon:



= Dye-Sublimation Yellow Panel



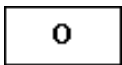
= Dye-Sublimation Magenta Panel



= Dye-Sublimation Cyan Panel



= Resin Black Panel (Premium unless otherwise stated)



= Clear Protective Overlay Panel



= Fluorescing Panel

1.6.1 Ribbon types and print counts

Ribbon	Print count
YMCKOK - Full Color / 2 Resin Black / Overlay	200
KO - Premium Black Resin / Overlay	500
SOK - Silver Metallic Resin / Overlay / Resin Black	350

1.7 Printer components: blank cards

Type	Description
Card Size	The card printer accepts standard CR-80 sized cards.
Card Surface	Suitable cards must have a polished PVC surface free of fingerprints, dust or any other types of embedded contaminants. In addition, cards must have a completely smooth, level surface in order for the printer to achieve consistent color coverage. Certain types of Proximity cards have an uneven surface that inhibit consistent color transfer. Certain types of smart card chips are raised slightly above the cards surface which results in poor color transfer.
UltraCard Brand Cards	The UltraCard® product line, available exclusively as part of HID Global FARGO brand secure card issuance solutions, has a long standing reputation among dealers and end-Users for consistent quality in construction. In addition to blank stock, the UltraCard line is available in a variety of configurations for magnetic stripe, custom holograms, and other additional anti-counterfeiting features. ■ UltraCard Premium is the preferred card for Direct-to-Card (DTC) applications that require a higher quality card. The composite material construction provides for maximum durability, flexibility and card life, with optimal resolution print quality for lamination and fluorescent panel ribbon printing applications. ■ UltraCard PVC cards are medium-durability cards for a glossy, photo quality finish. These cards are manufactured to ensure clean, scratch-free cards for high-quality prints and extended printhead life.

Section **02**

Setup and installation procedures

2.1 Choosing a good location

The following guidelines help to ensure optimal printing performance:

- Place the unit in a location with adequate air circulation to prevent internal heat buildup.
- Use the printer's dimensions as a guideline for the minimum clearances to the unit.
Note: Allow for adequate clearance in front of the unit to accommodate the unit with its covers open.
- Do not install unit near heat sources such as radiators or air ducts or in a place subject to direct sunlight, excessive dust, mechanical vibration or shock.

2.1.1 About moisture condensation

If the unit is brought directly from a cold to a warm location or is placed in a very damp room, moisture may condense inside the unit. Should this occur, print quality may not be optimal.

Leave the unit unplugged in a warm, dry room for several hours before using to evaporate any moisture.



Caution: For safety purposes, Ethernet is not intended for a direct connection outside of the building.

Attention: Pour des raisons de sécurité, Ethernet n'est pas conçu pour une connexion directe à l'extérieur du bâtiment.

2.2 Unpacking and inspection

While unpacking your printer, inspect the carton to ensure that no damage has occurred during shipping. Make sure that all supplied accessories are included with your unit.

Check that the following items are included:

- Power supply
- US power cord
- Installation Guide
- Warranty Statement, Compliance Document

2.3 Installing the print ribbon cartridge

FARGO® Direct-to-Card Printers require highly specialized supplies to function properly.

The FARGO DTCii Plus uses a one piece, disposable ribbon cartridge system.

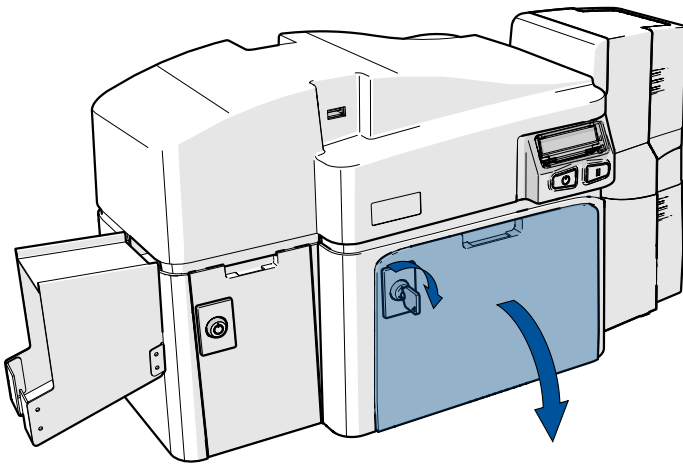
To maximize printer durability, reliability and printed card quality, only FARGO-certified supplies must be used. For this reason, your FARGO warranty is void, where not prohibited by law, if you use non-FARGO-certified supplies.

Printer cleaning is recommended with each ribbon change to ensure quality printed cards.

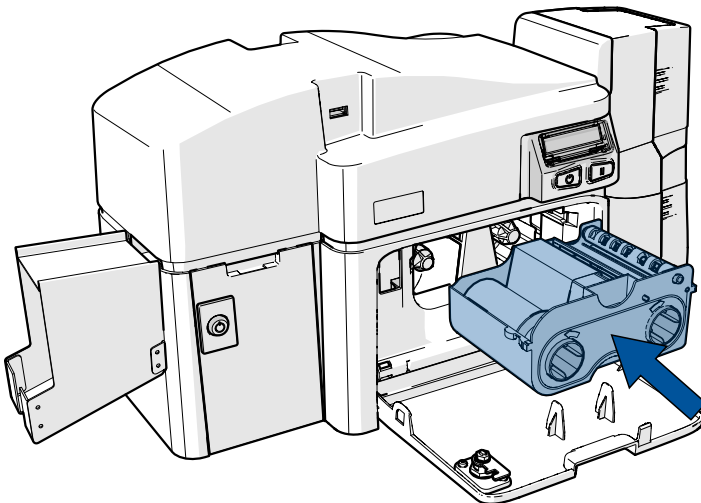
Resin-only print ribbons consist of a continuous roll of a single resin color. No protective overlay panel (O) is provided because resin images do not require the protection of an overlay.

2.3.1 Installing the ribbon

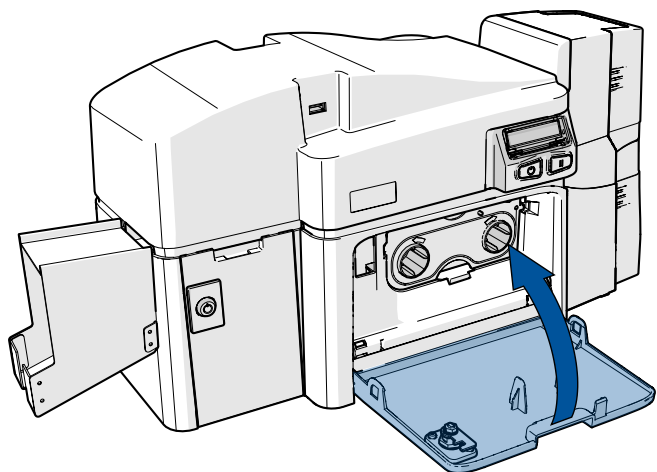
1. Pull open front cover.



2. Insert the print ribbon cartridge into the printer.



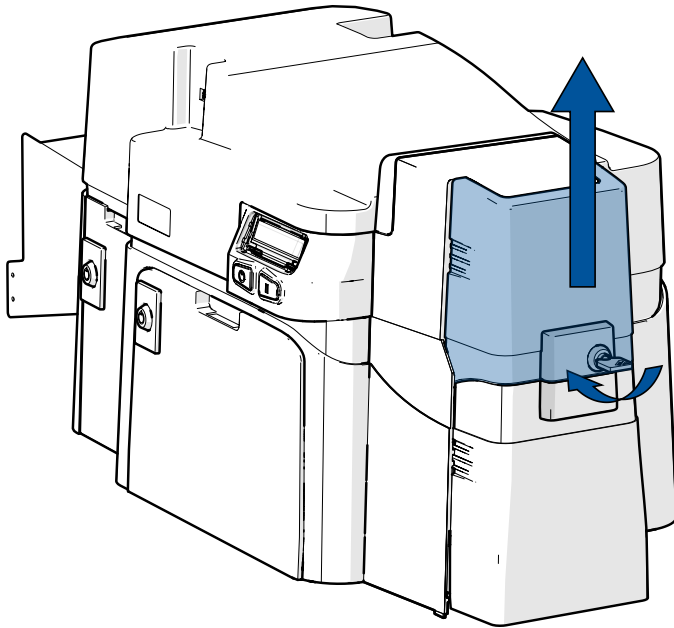
3. Close the front cover.



2.4 Installing blank cards into the input card hopper

The FARGO DTCii Plus card printer with dual input card hoppers is capable of printing different types of cards located in the upper or lower tray of the dual input hopper, for a total of 200 cards.

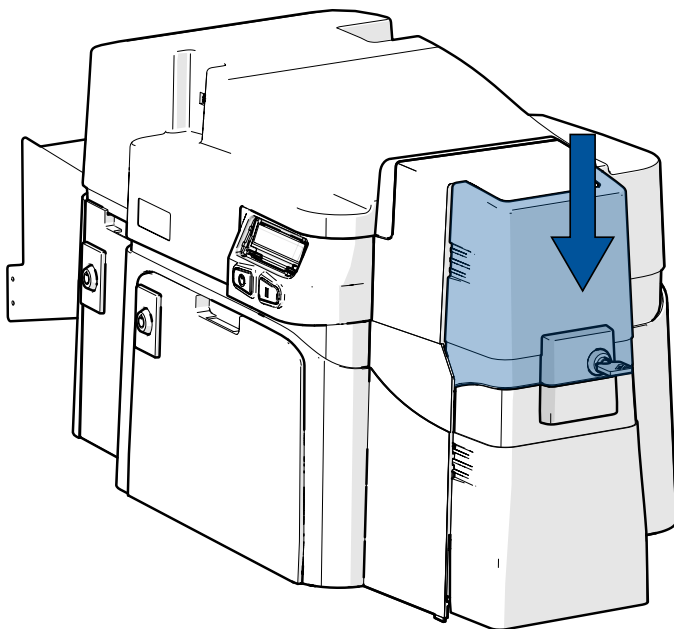
1. Slide up and open the dual input hopper upper door (Hopper 1).



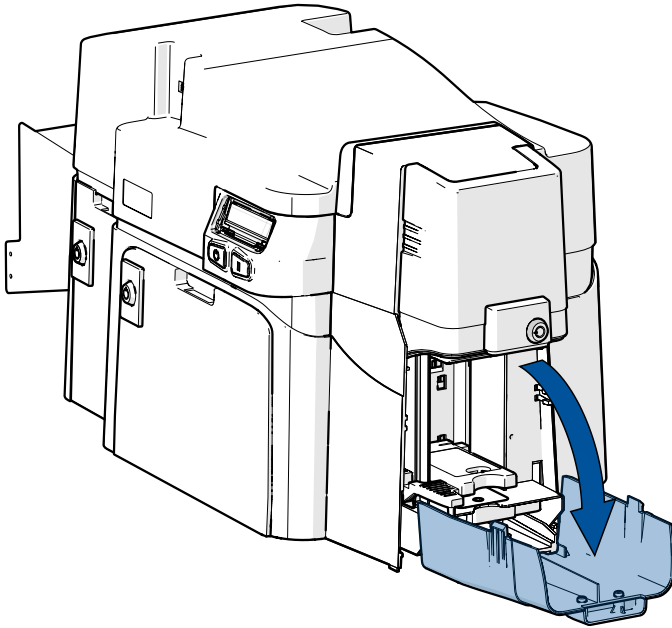
2. Load up to 100 cards into the upper hopper with the print side down.

If using cards with a magnetic stripe, the magnetic stripe should be loaded with the stripe up and to the front of the printer.

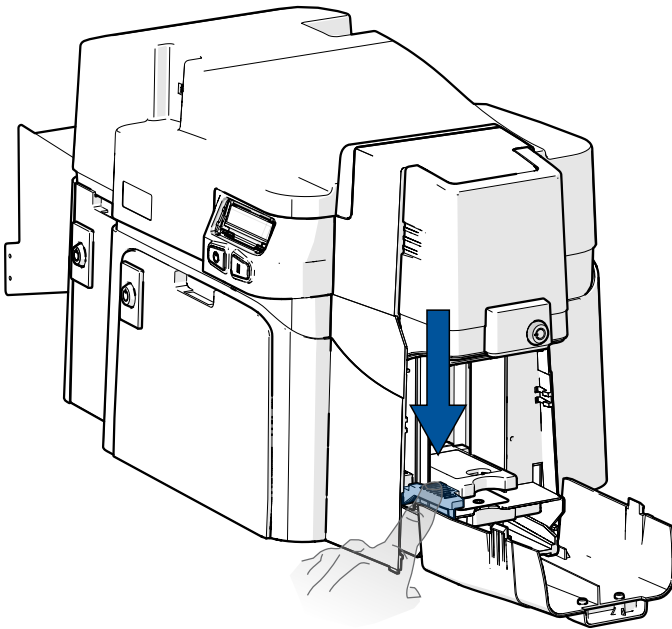
3. Close the dual input card hopper upper door to release the weight load onto the upper hopper cards.



4. Open the input hopper lower door (Hopper 2).



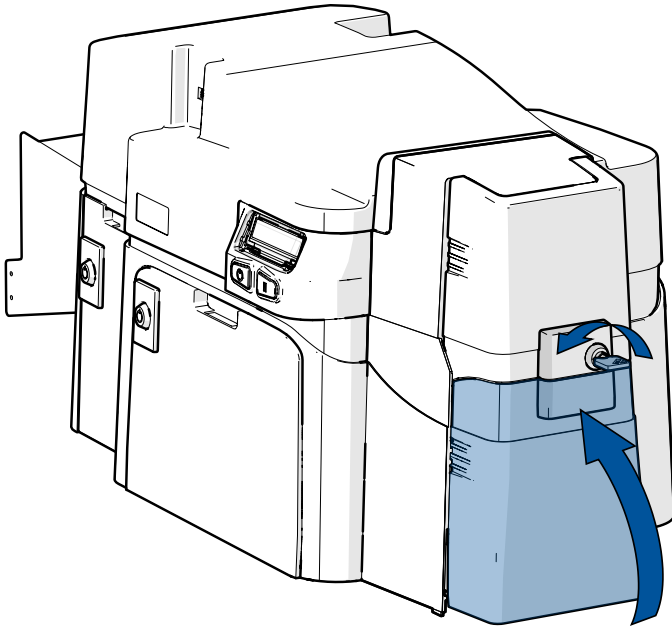
5. Press the card hopper load lever down until the card tray locks into place.



6. Load up to 100 cards into the lower hopper with the print side down.

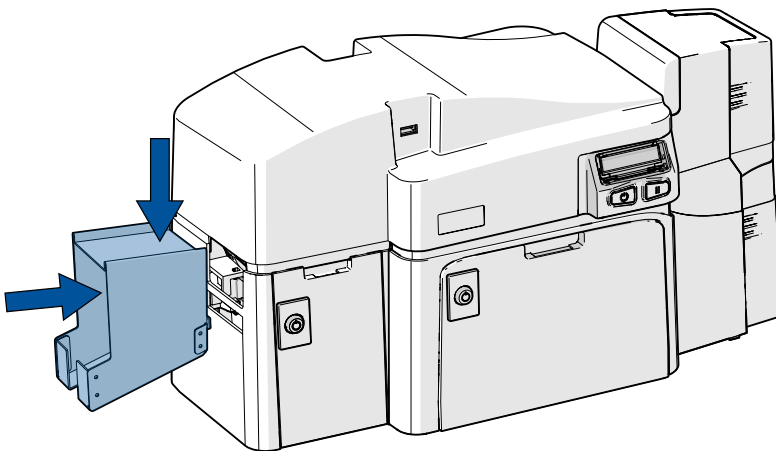
Note: If using cards with a magnetic stripe, the magnetic stripe should be loaded with the stripe up and to the front of the printer.

7. Close the dual input hopper lower door to release the lever to the printing position.



2.5 Installing the output hopper

Place the card output hopper into the bottom slot on the left side of the printer, push down until it locks into place.

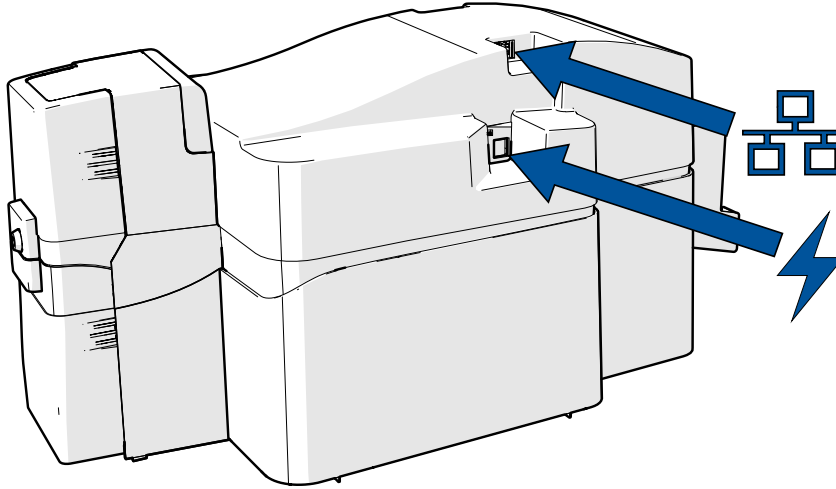


2.6 Connecting the printer power

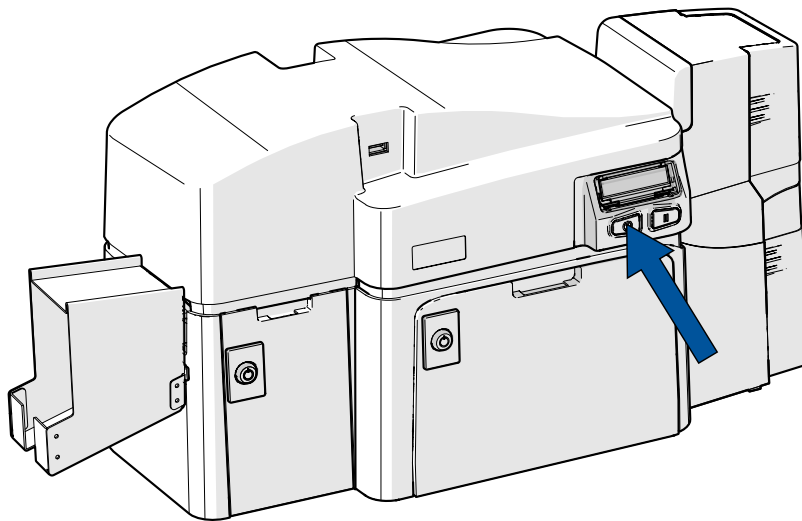
To connect power to the printer, follow this procedure.

Note: Do not connect a USB cable to the front of the printer. The USB connection on the front of the printer is for security connections only.

1. Plug the Ethernet cable into the back of the printer.
2. Plug the AC adapter power cable into the back of the printer.



3. Plug the wall power cable into the AC power adapter.
4. Plug the wall power cable into a standard 100-240 V AC power outlet.
5. Press the printer's power button to power on the printer.



Note: The printer powers down during the "sleep time" but automatically powers up when a print job is sent.

2.7 Locking system

The printer includes additional security with the inclusion of locks on the following components:

- Card input
- Reject hopper
- Material door

A set of two identical keys are provided that unlock all sections of the printer. In the event that these keys are misplaced, please contact HID Customer Services.

2.8 Accessory procedures: using the security lock slot

The printer has a security lock slot located in the back lip of the metal chassis to accommodate a standard laptop security lock.

To prevent unauthorized removal of the printer, attach an industry standard security cable to an immovable object and then lock the cable to the security lock slot.

The lock slot has a plastic covering that needs to be penetrated by the lock.

Note: Push the lock end into the slot with adequate force to break the protective film.

Follow the locking procedure recommended by the lock vendor.

Section **03**

System overview - troubleshooting

3.1 Sequence of operations

Knowing the sequence of the printer operation helps when troubleshooting the printer.

1. File information is received from the PC.
2. Printer compares the installed ribbon type stored in memory with the ribbon type command that was sent from the printer. If the ribbon type does not match, the **Pause** button (on the right) flashes.
3. The print stepper motor engages.
4. The card feed sensor detects the leading edge of the card and the headlift stepper engages to disengage the input lever.
5. The card feeds through for the alignment pass.
6. The card feed stepper motor engages to queue card for magnetic encoding (if applicable).
7. The encoded data is written to the card (if applicable).
8. The magnetic encoder verifies while the stepper reverses the card (if applicable).
9. The print ribbon drive engages (if not already at the yellow panel).
10. The print ribbon sensor looks for the yellow panel.

Note: The print ribbon encoder detects the number of revolutions required to use an entire color panel.

11. The print stepper motor engages.
12. The card feed sensor detects the leading edge of card.
13. The print stepper motor queues card to the middle of the platen roller. All stop.
14. The print headlift motor engages to the print position.
15. The print cover sensor checks for closed state.
16. The print stepper motor engages.
17. The ribbon drive motor engages.
18. The image data is burned by the printhead until the image data is depleted. All Stop.
19. The thermistor engages the printhead cooling fan to maintain proper operating temperature.
20. The headlift motor engages to the queue position.
21. The print stepper motor engages.
22. The print ribbon drive engages.
23. After ribbon advances a few encoder clicks, assume the ribbon is free of card. All stop.
24. Repeat Steps 9 through 22 for the appropriate number of color/overlay Panels.
25. Either the card is ejected from the singled-sided printer or the card feed stepper engages to queue the card for the flipper table for the dual-sided printer.
26. All stop.

3.2 Troubleshooting

3.2.1 Printer error buttons

All printers have two buttons.



ON/OFF



Pause

The display message system appears as a graphical message, for example:



3.2.2 Error messages

This section provides the troubleshooting table for the error messages. When an error occurs in the printer, the PC shows the error message on screen with solutions.

Each table uses a 3-column presentation to display a specific error message, the cause, and the solution.

- This format allows the troubleshooter to identify the error and its cause, and then perform the procedure provided in the solution column.
- This standard mode of identifying the problem and its solution should provide an efficient method of troubleshooting this printer.
- If you encounter problems beyond the capabilities of this error message table, you should contact Technical Support.

Error message	Cause	Solution
# 81 Unable to Feed	The printer is unable to feed a card from the input card hopper.	Check the following: ■ Verify the card thickness setting is set to the thickness of your cards. ■ Verify the cleaning roller is properly installed on the ribbon cartridge. ■ Check for card slippage. If necessary, run the printer cleaning routine. ■ Verify that your cards are within the accepted card size range. ■ Verify the cards are not sticking together.

3.2.3 Troubleshooting with the error message table

Error Message	Cause	Solution
# 2 Head Move Error	The printhead lift has malfunctioned.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 8 Head Sensor Error	The printhead temperature sensor is not functioning or is not connected properly. Or, the printhead is not cooling properly.	Reset the printer and try again. If the problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 9 Reboot Required	An unspecified system error has been detected by the printer firmware.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 25 Ribbon not Installed	No ribbon is installed in the printer.	Install a ribbon and retry.
# 30 Mag Verify Error	Magnetic encoding verification has failed.	Verify cards are oriented correctly. Try encoding with a different card. Verify cards have the magnetic stripe. Replace the magnetic encoding module.
# 31 No Mag Module	The printer is not configured with the encoder data type that you are trying to send.	Ensure that no encoding data is being sent with the print job and reprint the card. Install a magnetic encoding module.
# 38 # 39 # 40 EEPROM Corrupt EEPROM Read Error	EEPROM is restored with factory default values.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 44 Flipper Jam/ Home Error	A card has become jammed in the printer's flipper table. The flipper failed to position properly while aligning a card or flipping a card.	Clear any cards in the flipper table using the buttons to move the card out. Resume printing. The flipper table should be level when the printer is powered up. If the flipper Table is at an angle, open the card output door and manually level it. Then cycle the printer power to reset. Reset the printer and retry. If problem persists call for technical assistance.
# 45 No Flip Module installed	Request to print on 2nd side of card, but no flipper is installed.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 64 # 65 # 66 Reboot Required	Unspecified system error detected by the printer firmware.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 68 Card in Printer	A card is jammed in the print station or card flipping area of the printer.	Clear the jam and reset the printer.

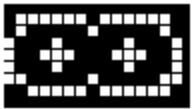
Error Message	Cause	Solution
# 70 Multiple Feed	Multiple cards were fed into the printer.	Verify the card thickness is set to the thickness of your cards. Check for card slippage. If necessary, run the printer cleaning routine. Verify the cleaning roller is properly installed on the ribbon cartridge. Verify the cards are not sticking together.
# 81 Unable to Feed	The printer is unable to feed a card from the input card hopper.	Check the following: ■ Verify the card thickness setting is set to the thickness of your cards. ■ Verify the cleaning roller is properly installed on the ribbon cartridge. ■ Check for card slippage. If necessary, run the printer cleaning routine. ■ Verify that your cards are within the perimeters accepted card size range. ■ Verify the cards are not sticking together.
# 82 Mag Jam	A card is jammed in the magnetic station	Clear any cards in the magnetic station using the buttons to move the card out.
# 91 Ribbon Out	The print ribbon has run out.	Install a new ribbon.
# 93 Wrong Ribbon	The print ribbon installed in the printer does not match the ribbon type selected.	Change either the installed print ribbon or the ribbon type.
# 97 Ribbon Search Error	The ribbon is not able to find the next panel correctly. Check for jams/breaks.	Recalibrate the ribbon sensor. If broken, repair by taping the ribbon back on to the take-up core. Replace the ribbon.
# 99 Ribbon Error	The print ribbon has either broken or jammed.	If jammed, clear the jam. If broken, repair by taping the ribbon back on to the take-up core.
# 100 Ribbon RFID Error	There is no ribbon or the ribbon tag information is corrupted or incorrect.	Verify the printer settings for correct Ribbon. Try a new ribbon and continue.
# 102 # 103 # 104 #3 Headlift Error	This is a problem with the printhead lift.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 106 Job Data Error	The print data sent to the printer is corrupt or has been interrupted.	Check the interface cable.
# 107 Printing Error	An error was detected during printing.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.

Error Message	Cause	Solution
# 109 # 113 Ribbon Release Error	The printer cannot locate the next ribbon panel in order to release the ribbon from the card.	Ensure that the ribbon is not stuck to the card. Replace the ribbon. Recalibrate the ribbon sensor. If the ribbon is broken, repair by taping the ribbon back onto the take-up core and manually advance to the next panel.
# 110 Card Jam/Align error	A card is jammed in the print station or card flipping area of the printer.	Clear the jam.
# 111 Head Loading	An unrecoverable error has occurred during printing.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 112 Card Jam/Align error	A card is jammed in the print station or card flipping area of the Printer.	Clear the jam.
# 128 # 170 Calibrate Ribbon	The print ribbon sensor is out of calibration or has failed.	Calibrate the ribbon sensor. Check for material blocking sensor and try again.
# 131 Flipper Jam/Home Error	A card has become jammed in the printer's flipper table. The flipper failed to position properly while aligning a card or flipping a card.	Clear any cards in the flipper table, using the buttons to move the card out. Resume printing. Reset the printer and retry. If problem persists call for technical assistance.
# 139 Please Remove Ribbon	Ribbon needs to be removed.	Reset the printer and retry. If problem persists, call for technical assistance.
# 144 EEPROM Corrupt EEPROM Read Error	EEPROM restored with factory default values.	Reset the printer and try again. If this problem persists, call for technical assistance.
#202 Encoder not installed	You are trying to send encoding data, but the printer is not configured with this encoder type.	Ensure that no encoding data is being sent with the print job and reprint the card. Install an encoding module.
Card in Printer	There was a card in the printer at boot up or cover close when no job is active.	Open the cover, remove the card, and close the cover.
Check Ribbon	The ribbon could not be queued to the first panel of the set.	Recalibrate the ribbon sensor. If broken, repair by taping the ribbon back to the take-up core.
Empty Reject Bin	The reject bin needs to be emptied.	Open reject bin door, remove cards and press the OK button.

3.2.4 Printer-specific tools



The status icons are as follows:



This icon indicates that the print ribbon supply is low and requires replacement soon.



This icon indicates that the printer needs to be cleaned.

Section 04

HID Global Technical Support

4.1 Before contacting HID Global Technical Support

- Position a phone near the printer and computer so the Technician can help to troubleshoot the printer.
- Have a self-test and a sample card ready when calling HID Global Technical Support.

4.2 Reading the serial numbers on a FARGO printer

To determine when the card printer was manufactured, see the serial number (affixed to the card printer).

Example: **Serial Number C0050028 (2020)**

- The first two digits indicate the year the printer was built (**C0** indicates the year 2020).
- The third and fourth digits indicate the week the printer was built (**05** indicates week 5 of that year).
- The last four digits indicate the sequence number for the numeric order in which the printers were built.

Contact the HID Global Technical Support Group:

Website: www.hidglobal.com/support

Revision history

Date	Description	Revision
December 2020	Minor updates.	A.1
September 2020	Initial release.	A.0



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