

Epson ColorWorks C8000 Operating Tips:

- How to print in batches continuously without pausing for maintenance
- Increasing substrate vacuum for better stability

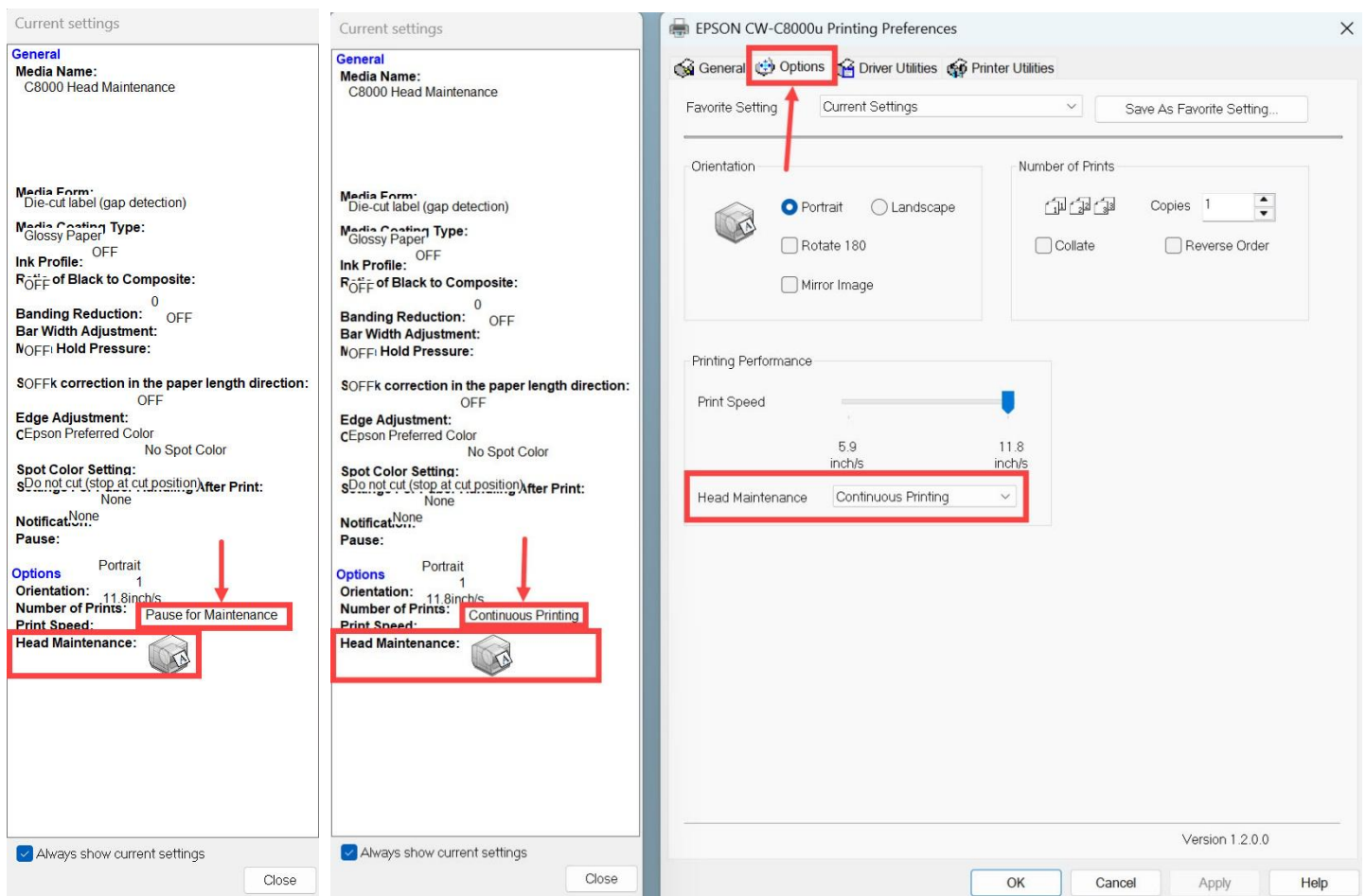
How to prevent the C8000 from pausing for maintenance during batch printing:

When printing batch jobs on the C8000, sometimes the printer will stop, perform head maintenance, and repeat the process multiple times while printing a large volume print job. This is because by default, the Head Maintenance function is set to the Pause for Maintenance position to maintain an elevated degree of print quality, but this can sometimes conflict with user requirements where speed and productivity is needed. This production disruption can be prevented by changing the default Head Maintenance setting from “Pause for Maintenance” to ‘Continuous Printing’.

Under the Options tab in the driver’s Printing Preferences there is a setting for Head Maintenance that can be changed to Continuous Printing to eliminate unnecessary maintenance.

Be aware that even though this same setting can be modified at the printer panel and by using the Printer Setting Utility, the driver setting has priority over both and will overwrite changes made elsewhere. It’s important to have the setting enforced at the driver level to ensure continuous printing without stopping.

Before and after changing the Head Maintenance setting to Continuous Printing

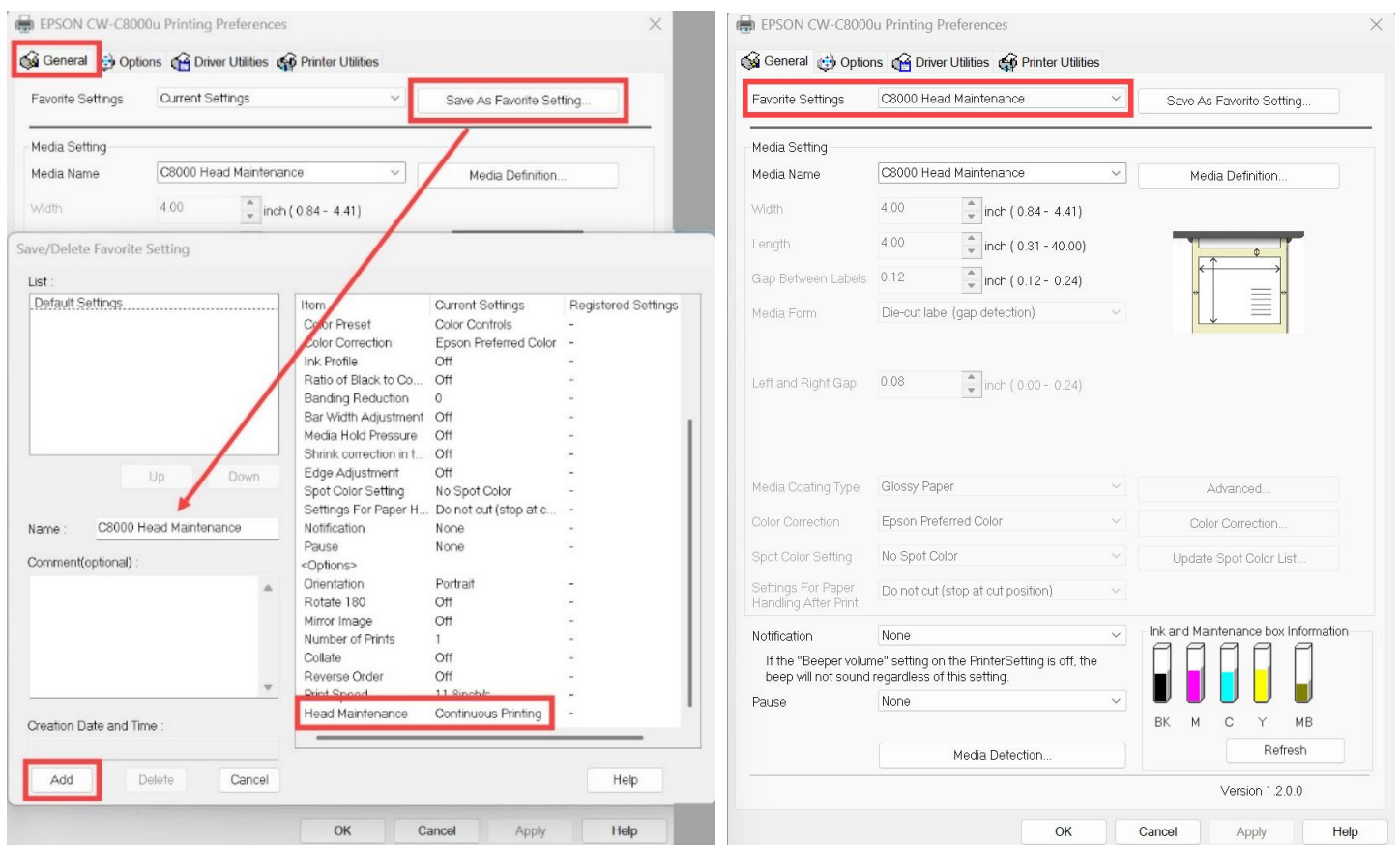


Making the C8000 Continuous Printing setting stable and persistent

To make the Continuous Printing setting persistent (without always changing the setting for every print job), a Favorite Setting can be created that combines a Media Definition in the General tab with the Head Maintenance setting in the Options tab. At the time of printing, a Favorite Setting can be selected using the drop-down menu that brings in both the Media Definition and the Head Maintenance setting. This should be done for all Media Definitions that are to be used for batch printing.

To do this, select Save As Favorite Setting... in the General tab after making the change to Continuous Printing in the Options tab. Next create a name (best if same name as the Media Definition) and select Add. The Favorite Setting preset will now be available when using the drop-down menu under Favorite Settings in the General tab.

Creating a Favorite Setting in the driver to make Continuous Printing persistent



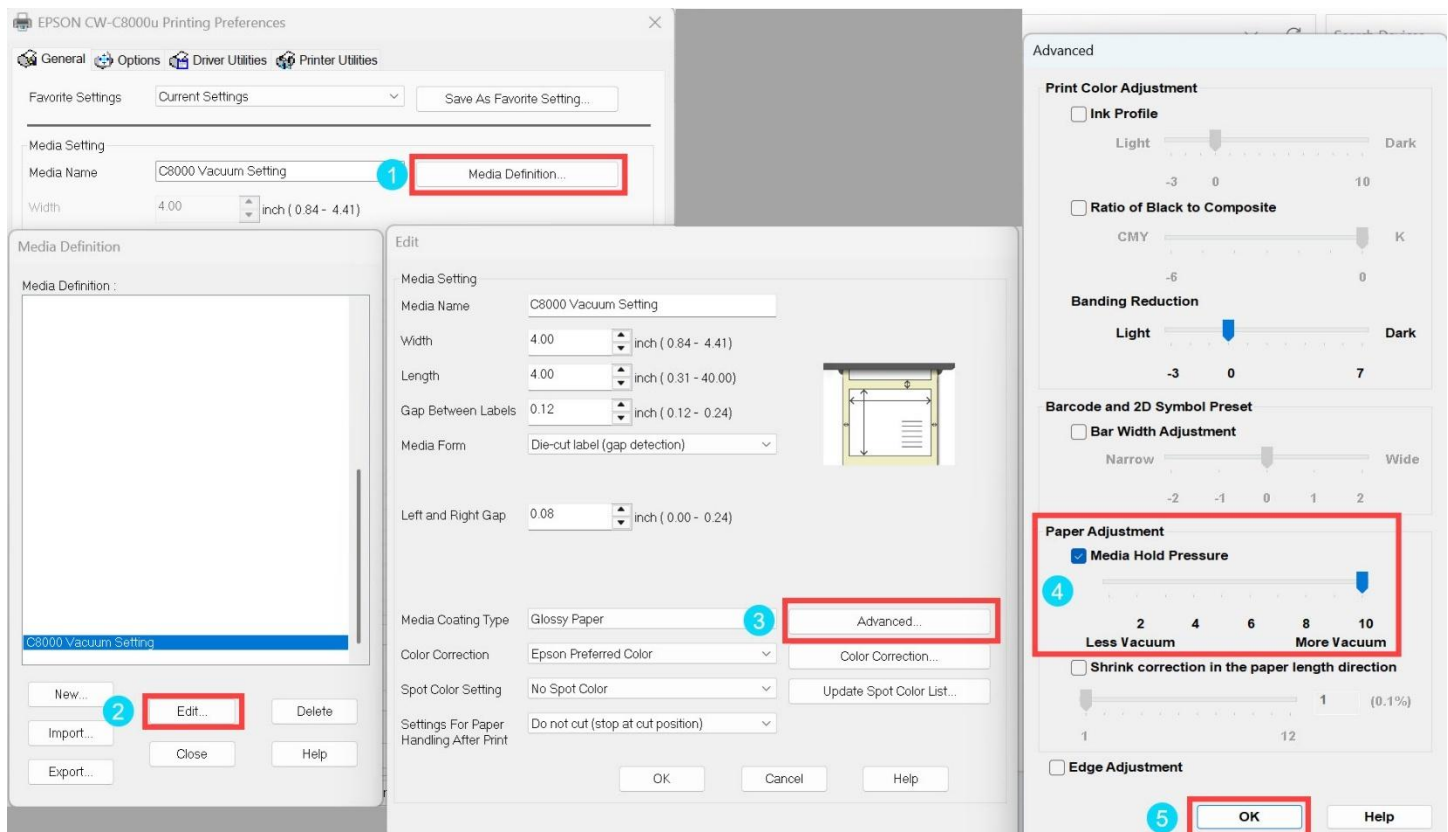
Increasing vacuum for improved media stability for narrow and thick label substrates:

The C8000 printer maintains media stability by using vacuum to hold the substrate down as the label substrate moves through the printer. Because the C8000 can print at nearly 12-inches per second, subtle side-to-side movement might occur when printing on thin, narrow label substrates due to having a smaller contact area for the vacuum to draw the substrate down properly. To remedy this problem, the vacuum can be increased by changing the Media Hold Pressure setting from Auto to the maximum setting of 10. Increasing the vacuum can also help to address thicker label substrates and tag material that might otherwise be difficult to draw down flat as they pass through the printer.

To adjust Media Hold Pressure, open the driver Printing Preferences, select the Media Definition... and a window opens displaying available Media Definitions. Next, choose the Media Definition to edit, then select the Edit... box. In the new window that opens, select Advanced... and under Paper Adjustment check the Media Hold Pressure box and move the slider to adjust Vacuum. Be aware that although the “Auto” setting for Media Hold Pressure appears to be set at a maximum value of 10, it is variable and needs to be manually set to 10 for maximum vacuum.

The settings in the screen grab below detail how to adjust the Media Hold Pressure.

Increasing vacuum by changing the Media Hold Pressure value



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