

Corporate identity is crucial in today's marketplace. Your company invests a tremendous amount of time and money in developing designs and products that reflect your identity. For 98 years, leading and emerging companies, like yours, have relied on Toronto Stamp to help them build their brand image and enhance their product identity.

Let's take a closer look at the process of creating your custom data plate from start to finish, beginning of course with your identity...

## Design

It all starts here with your data plate design and vision. Your data plate may be an attractive and elegant logo or a functional design that includes operating instructions, serial numbers, service recommendations, or contact information. If you are creating an electronic file, please see our Computer Artwork guidelines to help ensure a smooth design process.

### Application

What is your data plate being applied to? This information is important in determining the ideal combination of material and adhesive or other attachment method.

### Environment

The environment, indoors or outdoors, that your data plate is exposed to is a critical factor. To maintain an attractive appearance of your data plate and provide long-lasting service, we may recommend different printing processes, adhesives, base substrates and overlaminates. Will your data plate be exposed to gasoline or other chemicals (farm equipment)? Extreme moisture (hot tubs)? Intense heat (industrial furnaces)? All of these environmental conditions must be evaluated to manufacture your ideal data plate.

# Material

Hundreds of different types of data plate materials are available and ready for use by Toronto Stamp. These include aluminum, stainless steel, brass, foils, polyesters, polycarbonates (Lexans®), polypropylenes, vinyls, polystyrenes, and many more. Most materials come in a wide range of finishes and thicknesses. Your Toronto Stamp Sales Rep will advise you on the qualities of your material options to ensure the ideal choice for your application.

# Finish

Metals may have bright or satin finishes in a range of colours. Lighter weight materials are also available in gloss or matte finishes. Depending on the environment, material, and finish you choose for your data plate, an overlaminate may be recommended to enhance and maintain your data plate's beauty and durability.

# Attachment

How your data plate will be attached to your product will depend on many factors, particularly: your product design, the data plate material, and the environment. You may require an adhesive, or have the data plate pierced to create mounting holes for attachment with rivets. Toronto Stamp primarily uses 3M<sup>®</sup> brand adhesives. All have been tested to perform in a variety of environmental conditions. Your Toronto Stamp Sales Rep will recommend the ideal adhesive for your specific application. We can even send you test samples, if necessary.

### Size

Toronto Stamp has the equipment to make a data plate the exact size you need. Need a logo data plate for a small appliance? We can do that. How about a 2'x4' aluminum sign for a number of retail stores? No problem. Lightweight materials can be even bigger. Need 6', 8', or 10' decals for an industrial vehicle or machine? We can help!

### Shape

What shape will best complement your product design or brand image? From a basic geometric shape to a custom shape, Toronto Stamp's tooling, design, and state-of-the art manufacturing processes can give you the exact shape you desire to enhance your image and product. From standard shades to your custom made corporate colours, anything is possible. Toronto Stamp's colour experts can provide simple PMS matching to a more complex 4-colour process.

# Numbering

Numbering can be added to your data plate mechanically or electronically. Mechanical options for metal data plates include plain pierced numbering or pierced with black colour for additional emphasis. Thermal or ink jet numbering adds your serial number electronically to the surface of your data plate.

# **Embossing & Debossing**

Dimension gives your data plate emphasis in key design elements ... your logo, product name, or border for example. Embossing (raised impression) or debossing (lowered impression) is created through the application of a custom die made by our expert tool and die craftsmen.

# Forming

A contoured or formed data plate can add a distinctive look to your image and product. Toronto Stamp's forming process can create a curved or concave shape for your data plate. Forming can also be used to fit your data plate around a corner or angle of your product or to create any custom contour to enhance or match your product design.

# Doming

Doming seals your data plate beneath a protective lens that is glossy and resilient. Doming also enhances the beauty and durability of your data plate. Domed data plates can add style to electronics and appliances, while withstanding tough environments on grills, machinery, and vehicles. When you want your image to look its best, ask for doming!

# Quantities

How many data plates do you need? Just one for a prototype or custom product? A few dozen? A hundred? Thousands? Whatever the quantity, Toronto Stamp is ready and able to meet your production needs with quality from start to finish.