SNAP Operator’s Guide
Avery Dennison®
SNAP™ 500

Gen 1 – 1/0, 1/1

Gen 2 – 1/0, 1/1, 2/0, 2/1
WARNING

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, and
2) this device must accept any interference that may cause undesired operations.

This Class A digital apparatus meets all requirements of the Canadian Interference Causing Equipment Regulations. Cet appareil numerique de la classe A respecte toutes les exigences du Reglement sur le material broilleur du Canada.
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1.0 Introduction

NOTES call attention to information that is especially significant to understanding and operating the equipment.

CAUTION notices inform you of actions or situations in which the printer might be damaged.

WARNING notices describe situations in which lack of attention or insufficient equipment knowledge could cause either personal injury or damage to the printer.
2.0 Operation

2.1 Printer Description

2.1.1 Components
2.2 Loading Supplies (Stock and Ink)

2.2.1 Load Ink

Note: The ink should be 6mm wider than stock.

Note: When the ink rewind core is full, replace it with an empty core.

1. Open the **Upper Print Roller**.
2. Press latch. Remove cores from Upper Ink Supply Arbor and Upper Ink Rewind Arbor.

3. Install an empty ink core on the Upper Ink Rewind Arbor.
   a. Press latch.
   b. Rotate the core to align the spines.
   c. Slide empty ink core on arbor until it stops.
   d. Release the latch.
4. Remove the plastic packaging from ink.
5. Install on the **Upper Ink Supply Arbor**.

6. Thread ink as shown below.

7. Attach ink to the rewind core.
8. Wind several rotations.

9. Close the **Print Roller**.

10. Follow same procedure for bottom ink station.
2.2.2 Load Stock

1. Remove packaging from stock and discard.

2. Cut off tape holding the end of the stock.

3. Rotate the **Stock Arbor Knob** counterclockwise to retract the “fingers”. Open wider than width of the stock.

4. Slide stock on with the top edge pulling towards the stacker.

5. Rotate the **Stock Arbor Knob** clockwise quickly to extend the fingers that hold the stock.
6. Open all print rollers.
7. Pull stock from the top of the stock roll.
8. Thread as shown.

9. Hold the stock with left hand against the feed roller.
10. Turn the **Stock Feed Knob** counter-clockwise to move the stock through the knife into the stacker.
11. Remove slack from the supply.

12. Close **Print Rollers** from right to left.

13. Remove slack between **Print Rollers**.
14. Rotate the **Stock Guide Knob** to center the stock.

15. Adjust stacker as shown.
2.2.3 Threading Diagrams – Gen 1

SNAP 500 1 over 1 (Gen 1)

2.2.4 Threading Diagrams – Gen 2

Snap 500 2 over 1
Snap 500 2 over 0

Snap 500 1 over 1
(Gen 2)

Snap 500 1 over 0
2.3 Printing Labels

2.3.1 Printer Control Panel

- The **Start/Stop Button** is a blue button.
  - Data light is on, pressing the Start/Stop Button starts printing.
  - If the printer is running, pressing the Start/Stop Button stops printing.
- The **Ready Light** is a green light -> ready to accept print jobs.
- The **Data Light** green light -> labels are ready to print.
  - If the Data Light is flashing, you are at “end of day”
- The **Supply Light** is a yellow light:
  - tape or ink supply needs attention
  - stacker is full.
  - flashes when sensor being used.
  - displays a problem with an accessory attached.
- The **Error Light** is a red light -> problem exists
- The **Voice Button** is a yellow button -> printer status
2.3.2 Printing

- Print job sent -> **Data Light** comes on.
- Press the **Start/Stop Button** to begin printing.
- The stacker moves to the correct position.
- The printer starts
- If the printhead opens, the printer will produce a “leader” - longer piece of unprinted material. Any labels on this leader are reprinted.
- Cut labels drop onto the top of the stacker.
- Stacker moves down so that the incoming labels always to to the top of the stack in the same position.

2.3.3 Feeding the stock

Press and hold the **Start/Stop Button** to feed labels.

Release **Start/Stop button** to stop.

If you are in the middle of printing a batch, feeding the tape will cause the printed labels between the printhead and the knife to feed through without cutting. These labels will be re-printed the next time you start printing. The batch quantity will be correct.

2.3.4 Errors

There are two ways to determine errors:

1. Press the **Voice Button**. Listen for the error.
2. The Printer Status box on the Virtual Control Panel in PCMate Platinum also shows the error.

Correct the problem and press the Start/Stop Button to start printing again.
2.3.5 End of Day

To avoid wasting labels between print jobs, the printer stops before finishing a job. The **Data Light** will flash.

Send another print job. The previous print job finishes and the next starts without waste.

Press **Start/Stop Button** if there are no more jobs to print the remaining labels.

2.3.6 Clearing Print Jobs

Press and hold both the **Start/Stop** and **Voice Buttons** simultaneously to clear jobs.

Release to clear one job.

Continue to hold to clear all job.

2.3.7 Setting / Adjusting Voice Button Volume

1. Press and hold the Voice button -> “Press Start for Test Pattern.”
2. Press the Voice button -> “Press Start for Demos.”
3. Press the Voice button. -> “Press Start to Set Volume.”
5. Press the Start/Stop button -> “Volume Set to Level x. Returning to Print Mode.”
3.0 Making Adjustments

3.1 Print Head Adjustments

3.1.1 Adjusting Print Head Pressure

CAUTION: For extended print head life, use the lighter print pressure setting whenever possible.

1. For stock < 25mm, use a flat blade screwdriver to depress both buttons and turn them ¼ turn (90 degrees) counterclockwise until they are in the upper position.

2. For stock >25mm and < 50mm, use the flat blade screwdriver to depress both buttons and turn them clockwise until they are in the lower position.

CAUTION: Ensure that both buttons on the print head are in the same position. These are the only two positions for the buttons.
3.1.2 Adjusting Density (Darkness)

The nominal contrast setting is in the center of the rotation.

1. To increase print density, rotate the contrast knob clockwise.
2. To decrease print density, rotate the contrast knob counterclockwise.

CAUTION: For extended print head life, use the lowest print contrast that produces acceptable print quality.
3.2 Virtual Control Panel

3.2.1 Operating Panel

PCMate Platinum has a Virtual Control Panel (VCP) that shows at the bottom of the screen when a SNAP 500 printer is properly connected.

If more than one printer is connected, select the printer of interest from the Printer Selection Box.

The Printer Controls and Lights panel shows buttons and lights the same as the printer. Instead of a Voice Button, there is a Printer Status drop down box.

The Printer Status boxes show the Batch ID, quantity, and printer status.

The Batch Control section has buttons to Show Settings, Clear Batch, and Clear All.
3.2.2 Show Settings Button

Click on the “Show Settings” button.

3.2.3 Print/Cut Adjust Tab

**Print Adjust** allows you to move the print with relation to the cut. There is one print adjustment for each print station. Each step is 0.003” or .076mm.

**Cut Adjust** will help the printer cut in the right place relative to a sense mark on pre-printed tape. Use only with pre-printed stock.

Both of these adjustments can be made while the printer is running.
3.2.4 Options Tab

Use the **Options Tab** to:

- Select the printer language.
- Disable a verifier (not available on SNAP 500)
- Disable the cutter. This can be used for rewinding labels.
- Set a print speed different from the format. You may set a speed. Disregard “Translate” setting.
- Disable flagging or job separator labels. Disregard “Side step”
- Disable sensemark type.
- Change Date and Time Setting.
- Change Transfer Type – disregard.
3.2.5 Versions/History Tab

Use the **Versions/History** tab to check the following:

- Printer serial number is “Printer ID”
- Software version should be the latest approved version.
- Actual Printhead Resolution should be 305dpi.

Check various counts.
3.2.6 Print Quality (VCP Arbor Tension Adjust Tab)

Use the Arbor Tension Adjust tab for print quality enhancements.

- Use Top Left Arbor, Top Right Arbor, and Bottom Arbor adjustments for ink adjustments.

- For ink wrinkling, you can adjust the tensions of the arbors to remove the wrinkles. Too little tension will cause wrinkling. Too much tension might break the ink.

Use the Stock Arbor adjustment to help tracking problems.
4.0 Maintenance

4.1 Print Heads

NOTE: Clean print heads:
1. Every 2-4 hours with alcohol and a cotton pad
2. Every 8 hours with alcohol and Velcro.

4.1.1 Handling Print heads

1. Keep print heads in their original anti-static bags.
2. Wear an anti-static wrist strap. Fasten the clip end of the anti-static wrist strap to a metal portion of the printer.
3. Wear anti-static gloves.
4. Do not touch any terminals extending from the print head or the print line.

4.1.2 Cleaning Procedures

1. Before cleaning any part of your SNAP 500 printer, turn off the power.
2. Apply alcohol to pad
3. Scrub head with pad.
4. Apply alcohol to loop side of a Velcro.
5. Scrub firmly with Velcro. Let dry 5 minutes.
6. Clean the print rollers.
7. Clean sensors with a dry cotton or foam swab.

CAUTION: Do not use alcohol to clean sensors.
4.2 Print Head Replacement

Replace head when:

- Voids in the printing
- Lines of missing print
- Print quality does not improve after cleaning

1. Turn off the power to the printer.

2. Remove the tape and ink supplies from the printer for easier print head removal.

3. Follow handling techniques listed above.

4. Unplug the cables that connect to the print head.

5. Press the two grey tabs on the top of the print station. Reach underneath and remove the print head from the print station.
6. Remove the new print head from the anti-static bag.

7. Place the new print head assembly onto the plastic mount bracket underneath the print station.

8. Carefully, align the clips into the bracket as shown. Push it up until it clicks into position.

9. Reconnect the print head cable connectors, making sure that the connectors are seated tightly.

**WARNING:** If the cables are not connected correctly, the print head will be destroyed when the power to the printer is turned on. Check to see that the cable is tight by observing from underneath the print head.
4.3 Lubrication

The SNAP 500 ball bearings do not require lubrication.

Two (2) oil-impregnated bronze bushings in the auxiliary rollers of the feed assembly that do require lubrication.

Caution: AVERY DENNISON recommends lubricating the bronze bushings with one drop of multi-use oil once every month during normal operation.

4.4 Rotary Knife Assembly Cleaning

WARNING: When adjusting, removing, or replacing the knife assembly, you must turn off the power to the printer to avoid personal injury.

1. Turn off the power to the printer.

2. Using the Feed Roller knob, back the tape out of the knife.
3. Using a Phillip’s head screwdriver, loosen the retaining screw on the outboard end of the knife.

4. Lift knife up and out.

5. Clean the knife with alcohol and cotton swab. Tap the knife on a hard surface to remove cut pieces.

WARNING: Keep your fingers out of the knife assembly to avoid personal injury.
6. Align the “D” on the knife with the “D” in the printer.

7. To insert the new knife assembly, slide it down vertically into the space between the Auxiliary Feed and the Nip Rollers.

8. Ensure alignment is correct and knife is seated.

9. Retighten the screw.