

# *ProFinish<sup>TM</sup> XL*

*Cold Laminating System*

## **USER'S GUIDE**

[www.varitronicsystems.com](http://www.varitronicsystems.com)



## **Warranty**

the ProFinish™ XL Cold Laminating System will be free from defects in material and workmanship under normal use for one (1) year from the date of the customer purchase and that the supplies for the system will be free of defects in materials and workmanship for one (1) year from the date of customer purchase.

Varitronics® will at its option repair, replace or refund the purchase price of any accessories, supplies or equipment found to be defective under this warranty. THIS WARRANTY IS EXPRESSLY IN LIEU OF ALL OTHER WARRANTIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR WARRANTY OF FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

In the event of breach of this expressed warranty, or any other warranty, whether expressed or implied, Varitronics® liability shall be limited to the remedy provided by the preceding paragraph. IN NO EVENT WILL VARITRONICS® BE LIABLE FOR ANY DIRECT, INCIDENTAL, OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, NOR WILL VARITRONICS® EVER BE LIABLE FOR BREACH OF WARRANTY, WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF THE MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS, IN AN AMOUNT GREATER THAN THE PURCHASE PRICE OF THE PRODUCTS DESCRIBED BY THIS EXPRESSED WARRANTY. No agent, distributor, salesperson, wholesaler or retail dealer has authority to bind Varitronics® to any other affirmation, representation or warranty concerning these goods.

## Introduction

Thank you for purchasing the ProFinish™ XL Cold Laminating System. We are sure you will find this laminator to be useful, reliable, and easy-to-use.

The ProFinish™ XL System is designed to apply high quality, bubble free laminate to posters, banners, and any other visuals up to 42.25 inches wide and up to 300 feet long that you want to protect for future use. The machine and supplies are compatible with all types of computer-printed media including laser, inkjet, color and thermal in a wide range of material sizes and thickness.

This manual will help you with:

1. The initial unpacking and set up of the machine
2. Operating the machine
3. Troubleshooting tips

Supply Offering for the ProFinish™ XL Cold Laminating System

## Laminate

Part No.	Description	Foot Per Roll
20008-00	24" Dual Sided Lamination	300
20009-00	42" Dual Sided Lamination	300

## Table of Contents

Contents of the ProFinish™ XL machine box . . . . .	2
Unpacking and assembling the laminator cart. . . . .	2
Unpacking and positioning the laminator . . . . .	3
ProFinish™ XL control panel. . . . .	4
Loading laminate film . . . . .	5
Troubleshooting tip for loading laminate. . . . .	7
Laminating items . . . . .	8
Caring for your rollers . . . . .	9
Machine troubleshooting . . . . .	10
Technical Specifications . . . . .	12
Warnings. . . . .	12

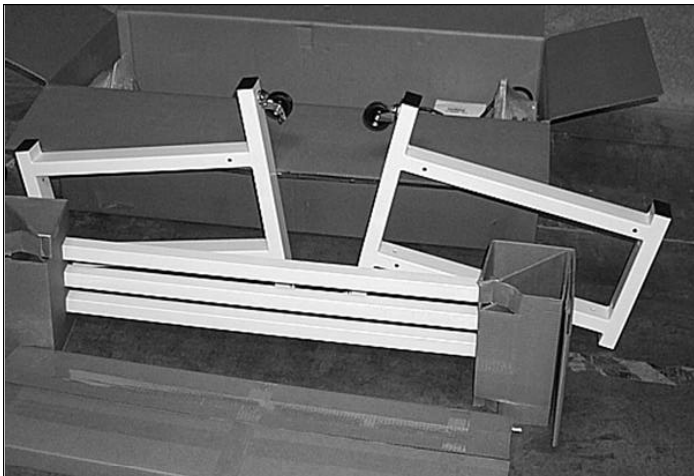
## Contents of the ProFinish™ XL Machine Box

The ProFinish™ XL System is fully assembled upon packing, and requires no additional setting up other than unpacking the machine, plugging it in, and loading the film. You will find the contents of the box to include:

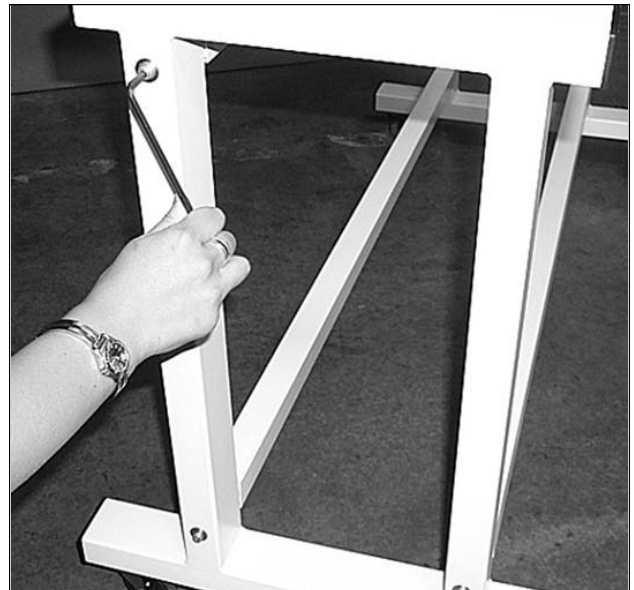
1. ProFinish™ XL System
2. 1 Feed table with paddle
3. 1 Unassembled mobile machine cart
  - a. (3) cross members
  - b. (2) end pieces
  - c. (6) 3/8"-16" x 3.5" hex head bolts
  - d. (6) 3/8" washers
  - e. (6) 3/8" split washer
  - f. (1) allen wrench for assembly
  - g. (4) 3/8"-16"x 3" machine hold down bolts
4. Warranty card
5. Spare cut blade holder assembly
6. Machine power cord
7. User's Guide

## Unpacking and Assembly of the Laminator Cart

It is helpful to have two people unpack and assemble the cart and laminator. To assemble the cart, remove the bolts and washers from the three support bars using the supplied allen wrench. Attach the bars to one leg of the cart and tighten bolts. Attach opposite end of cart and tighten bolts.



*Unpack laminator cart components*



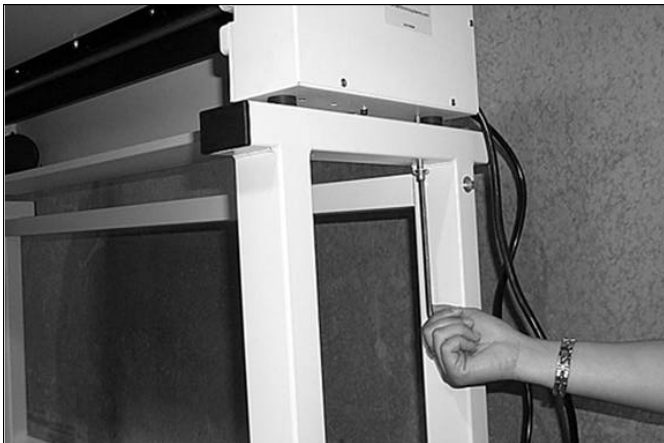
*Assemble three cross members to cart ends*

## Unpacking and Positioning the Machine

To begin unpacking, remove the packing from around the machine, and have someone assist you in lifting the machine onto the mobile stand. Please lift from under the ends of the machine. **DO NOT LIFT USING ANY ROLLERS.**

Remember when lifting to bend your knees and keep your back straight to prevent over stressing and possible injury to your back. Remove the plastic wrapping from around the machine.

Position the machine ends over the top bars on the cart. On the underside of each end of the machine there are two threaded holes. These holes need to align over the holes in the top bars of the cart. Install the four bolts up through the holes in the bars and into the threaded holes. Turn the bolts in as far as possible by hand. Then tighten all four bolts with the supplied allen wrench.



*Positioning and securing the machine on the cart*

The machine should be placed so that you have full access to all four sides of the machine. Ensure that the power and foot pedal cables are not in a hazardous position on the floor.

Check the area to the rear of the machine where laminated items will exit. A flat surface is desired for items to exit onto. Be sure to clean the area so laminated items do not gather dust.

## ProFinish™ XL System Control Panel



Control panel layout



Foot switch

The control panel for the ProFinish™ XL System is located on the right hand side of the machine. The following paragraphs review each of the controls.

### Auto / Foot

The Auto/Foot Switch changes the motor control modes. Auto mode allows the motor to run constantly. Foot mode allows you to start and stop the machine by pressing and releasing the foot pedal, allowing for greater control over lamination. Foot mode is the default.

### Forward / Reverse

The Forward/Reverse Switch changes the motor direction. During normal operation the machine should always be switched to "forward" mode. The main reason for using the "reverse" setting would be to remove an installed roll of laminate.

### Emergency Stop Button

The Emergency Stop Button will immediately stop the machine if pressed. To release the emergency stop, twist it clockwise. The emergency stop button will override all other switches including the ON/OFF switch.

### Power Button

The Power Button is the main power switch. The ProFinish™ XL can only be operated when the button has been depressed and the indicator lamp is lit. To turn machine off, depress the power button again and the indicator light will turn off.

# Loading Laminate Film

Each roll of laminate comes with an extra 5 feet of material that allows for proper loading without wasting the 300 feet of purchased material. Before starting the loading process, remove tray from the machine.

## Step 1:

- Match the colored dots on the end of each supply roll with the corresponding dots on the side of the machine. Note which roll is identified as "top" and "bottom."
- The "bottom" roll has a starter section.
- Slide the supply rolls into the grooves in the sides of the machine; making certain that the roll is inserted completely.



*Loading top roll*



*Loading bottom roll*

## Step 2:

- On the bottom supply roll, grasp the laminated starter section by the leading edge.
- Route over the bottom idler bar adjacent to the lower rubber roller.
- Make sure the starter film is inserted squarely between the two rubber rollers.
- Use the foot pedal to run the starter section into rubber rollers.
- Ensure that the film is exiting under the cutter bar assembly. (If not, refer to the "troubleshooting tips" immediately following the load directions).
- Run approximately half of the starter section into rollers. Be sure not to advance any film with adhesive exposed into the rollers!

**WARNING!** Equipment has pinch points that can cause injury. Keep hands, loose clothing, jewelry or hair away from rollers during loading of the film.



*Start the bottom leader between the rubber rollers using the foot pedal*

## Loading Laminate Film (continued)

### Step 3:

- Make certain the lower film is tight. If necessary, rotate the supply roll backwards to tighten.
- Grasp the film from the upper supply roll, and adhere it to the exposed adhesive on the lower supply roll. For best results, adhere the top film 1 inch below the round steel idler bar. By carefully aligning the edges, keeping the film tight and avoiding wrinkles, film waste will be minimized.



*Tacking laminate from top roll to exposed adhesive on bottom roll*

### Step 4:

- Use the foot pedal to run the film through the machine.
- Ensure that the film is exiting under the cutter bar assembly.
- Run material through the machine until all wrinkles go away. Material amount will vary depending on loading accuracy. Expect to run approximately 3 to 4 feet through the system.
- Trim off excess film by pressing down on the blade holder and sliding it in either direction.



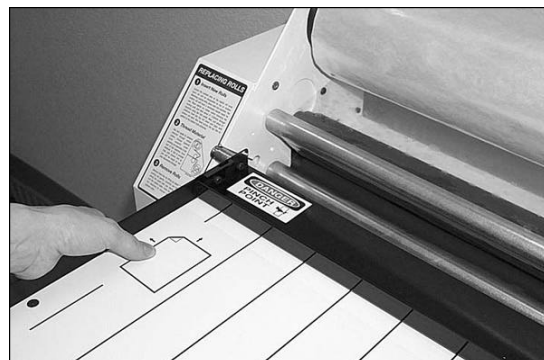
*Guiding film out the back of the machine*

### Step 5:

- Install feed tray completely by aligning the support posts in the grooves located in the sides of the machine.



*First, insert right side of tray*



*Second, insert the left side of tray*

You are now ready to laminate your documents!

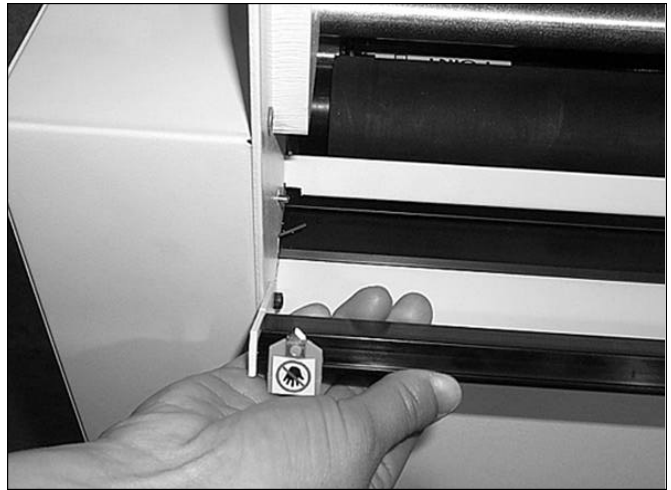


## Troubleshooting Tip for Loading Laminate

If material wraps around the top pinch roller:

1. Depress the cut bar safety stop pin and swivel the cut bar assembly out of the way.  
**Important: see warning below.**
2. Remove the bar located on the output side of the pinch rollers by lifting it out of the way.
3. Being careful not to damage the rubber rollers, feed some more material through the system.
4. Run enough material through the system to eliminate all wrinkles.
5. Once there is enough material fed through the system, replace the bar to its original position and pivot the cutter assembly back into place.
6. Cut the material by pressing down on the cutter assembly and sliding the orange cutter the length of the machine.
7. Remove the excess material.

**WARNING!** Cutter has exposed blade that could cause personal injury if contact is made. Use caution when swiveling cut bar away from the machine, when handling the bar or working around the exposed blade.



Swiveling cut bar away from the machine.  
**Important: see warning below.**



Push bar towards left side of the machine



Lift bar from right side of machine

# Laminating Items

The initial feeding of an item into the machine is the most important part of the lamination process. If an item enters the machine on an angle, or with wrinkles in the leading edge, the output may end up with wrinkles.

Some items are easier to laminate than others. Generally smaller and more rigid items are the easiest to laminate. A very large, thin item is more challenging, but should provide few problems if fed into the machine correctly. With a little practice it is easy to feed items into the machine properly 100% of the time.

## Laminating Single items

This is the most common type of lamination, in which single items are fed into the machine one after the other. This example covers most of the techniques involved in proper laminating.

1. Switch the machine to "Foot" mode. Do not start the rollers turning yet.
2. Pull the paddle back so it is not resting on the tray. It will be sitting about .25" above the tray.

Lay the item flat on the feed tray and slightly stretch the leading edge with your fingers. Move the item under the paddle and onto the rollers until it is touching the film. If you know that the leading edge of the item is straight you can align this visually, or by inserting the item far enough into the rollers that it stops (this should be done by gently sliding the item forward).

Ensuring the leading edge of your document is flat is very important, as a small wrinkle at this point may continue through an entire document.

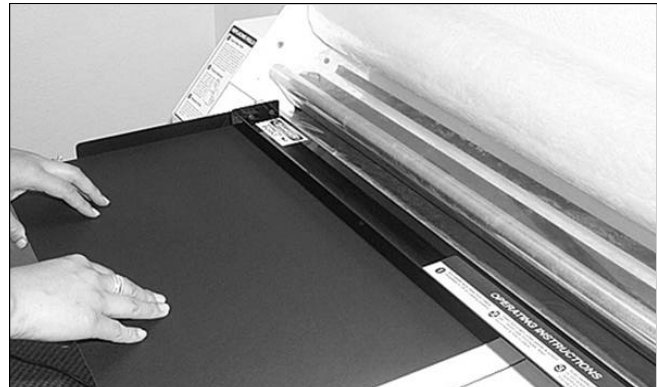
3. Once you are satisfied that the item is straight and flat, press the foot pedal. As the document begins feeding through the system, lower the paddle by sliding it forward.

Do not push the item into the machine, as this will wrinkle the leading edge; instead, allow the rollers to grip and pull in the item.

Once the item has passed through the rollers, you may stop the laminator and prepare the next item for lamination in the same method as above. If you are only laminating one item and need it removed from the machine, keep the motor running until it has passed through the rollers.



*Pull back the paddle*



*Load item under the paddle, squarely to film*



*Push paddle forward*

## Laminating Items (continued)

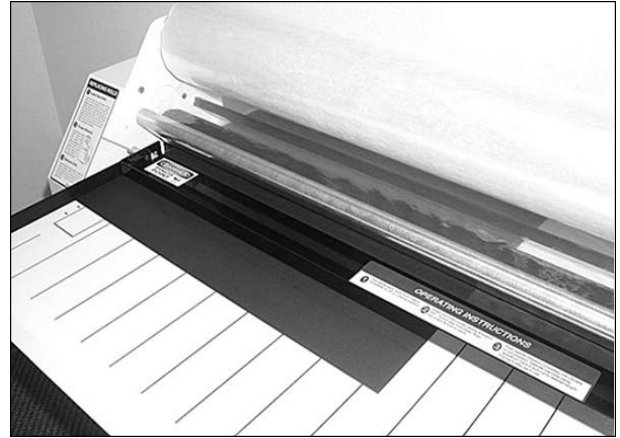
4. To cut the laminated item from the machine, depress cutter and run across entire laminate width.

### Laminating multiple items

If you are laminating items with a combined width narrower than that of the film, you can laminate them side-by-side to prevent wasting laminate. Following the instructions for laminating single items to ensure straightness, feed the items into the machine next to each other with a small gap in between them. It is very important to ensure that the items are straight as multiple items may overlap on one another if improperly fed into the machine. For this process, you may wish to have an assistant.

You can feed as many small items into the machine next to one another as you are capable of handling, however, all items for side-by-side laminating must be the same thickness.

Note: Poor quality of lamination in between the items is due to the roller being lifted slightly; however, after trimming this effect is not noticeable. The thicker the items you laminate, the more you will notice this.



*Lamination using the foot pedal*



*Cutting laminated item from the machine*

## Caring for Your Rollers

The ProFinish™ XL System rollers are of high quality and durability, however, to prevent non-warranty damage, please observe the following precautions.

1. Clean only when needed, with recommended cleaning solution. Isopropyl alcohol rubbed lightly on the rollers is good. Bestine is another option. Roller cleaning fluids are available commercially.
2. Be careful with knives or other sharp objects near the rollers. Cutting or puncturing a roller will cause repeating marks in the rollers and is not covered under the machine warranty.
3. Do not allow anything over 1/16" thick objects to pass through the rollers. A large irregular object passing through the rollers may cause damage to the rollers.

## Machine Troubleshooting

SYMPTOM	POSSIBLE PROBLEM	TEST/ACTION
Long documents are not aligned with film layers after laminating.	Feed tray not installed correctly.  Supply plate not seated at base of groove in side plate.	Verify tray is completely installed.  Verify supply rolls are completely seated at base of grooves in side plate.
Cut blade does not slide smoothly.	Cutter rail has adhesive build-up.	Clean rail with isopropyl alcohol. Apply silicon lubricant to cutter rail.
Cut blade does not cut well.	Blade has accumulated adhesive buildup.  Blade is dull.	Clean adhesive buildup from blade using isopropyl alcohol.  Replace blade if necessary.
Film does not exit machine under pivoting cutter assembly.	Film is curling.  There is adhesive on the rubber roller.	Remove stripper bar & reposition material under cutter. Replace stripper bar.  Clean adhesive from nip rollers.
Documents tend to wrinkle during lamination.	Paddle not operated correctly.  Tray or paddle not flat.	Ensure paddle is pushed forward completely after document is loaded, aligned, and has begun lamination. Check paddle and tray for flatness.
Document difficult to load.	Paddle not pulled back in load position.  Adhesive build-up on underside of paddle.	Prior to loading document, pull paddle back to "load" position.  Ensure underside of paddle is clear of any obstruction or adhesive buildup.
Film wrinkles don't go away as material is run through the machine.	Upper and/or lower supply roll(s) are not firmly seated in grooves within side plate(s).	Verify supply rolls are firmly seated at base of grooves in side plates.

## Machine Troubleshooting (continued)

SYMPTOM	POSSIBLE PROBLEM	TEST/ACTION
Film does not lay flat, curls and/or wrinkles.	Adhesive buildup on lower idler bar.	Clean adhesive buildup from idler roller using isopropyl alcohol.
The machine will not run.		<p>The power plug is pressed completely into its socket.</p> <p>There is power to the socket.</p> <p>The "Power" button is on.</p> <p>The green light should be on.</p> <p>The emergency stop has been released.</p> <p>The control mode (foot/auto) is correct.</p> <p>The fuse located in the rear of the machine is not blown.</p>
Electrical sparks	It is not uncommon for a small electric spark to jump between two metal parts while the machine is running. This is static electricity, caused by friction between the plastic film and the machine, and is not a cause for concern. This phenomenon can be seen more often in dry and warm climates. If this is occurring you may also on rare occasions receive a tiny shock, the same as touching metal after walking over some carpets.	This effect will be fairly minor. If you feel something is wrong with the machine electrically, please cease using the machine and contact your local dealer.

## Technical Specifications

Mechanical	Electrically Driven cold lamination 110-230V @ 1Amp (max)
Supplies	Dual sided Laminate Material 24 inches wide x 308 feet long 42 inches wide x 308 feet long
Document size (max)	42.25 inches wide x length of supply (300 feet) 108 cm (W) x 91.4 m (L)
Laminate total thickness	0.004 inches (0.1 mm)
Document thickness	0.0 to 0.10 inches (2.54 mm)
Machine footprint	52" L x 11" W x 14.5" H 132.1 cm (L) x 27.94 cm (W) x 36.83 cm (H)
Stand footprint	52" L x 22" W x 28" H 132.1 cm (L) x 55.88 cm (W) x 71.12 cm (H)
Machine weight	Approx. 200 lbs. (90.7 kg)

## Warnings

- 1) Equipment has pinch points that can cause injury. Keep hands, loose clothing, jewelry or hair away from rollers during loading of the film.
- 2) Cutter has exposed blade that could cause personal injury if contact is made. Use caution when swiveling cut bar away from the machine, when handling the bar or working around the exposed blade.
- 3) Electric Shock Hazard. Do not open machine covers. No user serviceable parts inside covers.