

Printing and packaging.

R&D tax relief



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The printing and packaging sector is one of the engines of growth of light industry. The way in which goods are printed and packaged has a large part to play in influencing the end consumer.

There are strict rules covering R&D tax relief claims. Our specialist R&D team will ensure that the claim is accurate and will stand up to any HMRC scrutiny. If the right boxes are not being ticked in terms of what qualifies under the R&D legislation, any claims against this scheme will come to nothing.

For this reason many potential printing and associated industries claims are not even attempted because many companies are rightly reluctant to spend significant amounts of time and money with no guarantee of success.

We will make the whole process simple by preparing a claim on the company's behalf. We provide the right information in the right format so that HMRC can quickly agree the R&D claim.

Typical qualifying claims

- Technological advances to accommodate the growing need for environmentally friendly solutions for printed products particularly as there is an increasing requirement for the use of recycled paper.
- Testing and creating a new formulation of ink to ensure colour density is maintained while using less ink and improving UV stability, along with significant cost reduction.
- A new methodology and software process to enable quality printing onto reflective material without the need for transfers.
- Overcoming the technological uncertainties of sheet fed window lamination, adhesives, heat issues and chemical structure of the sheet and the rigorous testing and modification of existing machinery.
- Integration of a tamperproof packaging with a complex product design to create a secure but easy-to-use solution for a pharmaceutical product. The uncertainties to overcome were in the sourcing of the appropriate materials for the packaging along with electronic tagging to the packaging.

These are examples of what you may be doing, but if you can do them by following routine or conventional methodology then the claim will not be qualifying. The legislation essentially dictates that you have to be doing something that others in your industry are not doing. In the packaging industry, developments are usually aimed at reducing the use of raw materials, weight and cutting back on costs.

Contact us to receive a free health check and one of our experienced R&D advisers will be able to ascertain whether the development activity qualifies. If you are unsure at this stage, a telephone conversation with one of our advisers will be able to definitively establish whether or not a claim can be made.

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