General:

Printing digitally provides the opportunity to go to press very quickly if the electronic files are created and formatted properly. Our digital specialists are available for consultation to help you setup your files correctly the first time and prevent any delays. Verify your digital art submission so the art is adjusted to your satisfaction, all text is spelled correctly, and that the original submitted artwork is correct. Provide a PDF file of the artwork along with the digital files whenever possible.
All artwork submitted will be subject to a preflight inspection by our Art department before your order can be processed. Proofs will be provided upon request.

Artwork Requirements:

All bleed copy must extend 1/16" (0.0625") outside the die cut area.
Copy should be no closer than 3/64" (0.0468") from trim edges.
Font size should be no smaller than 2 pt. bold in positive or reverse, also use a San Serif font such as Helvetica Bold.
Rule lines should be no thinner than .3 pt. or 0.0042".
No need to trap the artwork.

Software:

Our preferred file format is Adobe Illustrator (.ai). We accept files in the following software: Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Acrobat, Adobe Indesign CC 2015 or earlier.

Images:

Provide all image files when sending art files. All images (EPS, JPG, TIFF, BMP, PSD) must be high resolution, 300 ppi/dpi and sized at 100%. Anything less will result in poor quality. Avoid scaling the image in the page layout software.
Provide original, layered (do not flatten or merge) Photoshop image (.psd). This gives us the ability to apply color corrections, separate vector art, or revise separations if necessary for improved print quality.
PNG and GIF files cannot be used to produce quality labels (this includes low res. or web .jpg files).
If JPEG compression is used, please set it to maximum quality.
Graphic files originally created for Internet use cannot be used effectively for printing.

Fonts:

All text should be converted to outlines/paths by the originating program. This avoids the many problems associated with various font styles, formats and originators. While this will render text uneditable, it can be sized and manipulated like any other graphic element if need be. If the text must remain editable, or if the text can not be converted to outlines/paths, the screen and printer fonts must both be submitted with the job (Mac format ONLY).

Colors:

Always design label artwork in the CMYK colorspace, RGB flat files cannot be used. If the artwork is in RGB, we must convert to CMYK and this will cause a color shift.
Spot colors must be identified in the color palette with the specific Pantone Color number.
Special match colors should be identified as such. Provide a sample to match to if you are requiring us to match a previously printed label.
Any items that need to be backed in white should have a white image copied to a unique layer using Illustrator.
These items should reference a special custom "white" spot color.

Bar Codes:

Bar codes should be at least 80% in size to ensure it is scannable. Bar width reduction should be .002". We do not guarantee scanability of bar codes smaller than 80% scale.
Bar code quiet zones (no print area), 1/8" (0.0125") to left and right of the bar code are necessary for proper scanning.
Bar code should be printed in black or any other color that does not contain any red, orange or purple, as bar codes are scanned with an infrared light. Background color should be white.

Nutrition Facts:

Please contact the Food and Drug Administration for neccessary requirements needed for your particular application.

Any questions regarding this information, can be directed to Regina Todd, 717.227.5202, rtodd@topflight.com.