

## Glossary of Terms

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| <b>Back Trap Mottle</b>    | The contamination of the ink train by ink from the previous unit laydown. Normally caused by incorrect tack sequence or tack cross over.   |
| <b>Blanket</b>             | In offset printing, a rubber-surfaced fabric which is clamped around a cylinder, to which the image is transferred from the plate, and from which it is transferred to the paper.    |
| <b>Dot Elongation</b>      | The printed dot becomes longer than it is wider. This can also be defined as dot slur.   |
| <b>Dot Gain</b>            | The unintentional increase in size of the printed dot. All offset applications recognize a planned increase in dot size, unwanted, is excessive dot gain.                            |
| <b>Doubling</b>            | A second halftone dot appears, in the form of a shadow, usually of smaller size, next to the expected dot.   |
| <b>Embossing</b>           | The chemical attack of the face rubber which causes it to print an old job on a new form. This can also be defined as ghosting.  |
| <b>Face Picking</b>        | The removal of small spots of face rubber normally along the edges of the plate or at the gap.   |
| <b>Fan Out</b>             | The progressive widening of the web or sheet as it goes from unit to unit. Normally caused by tension differences between the roll and printing units or water pick-up of the stock. |
| <b>Felt Side</b>           | The smoother side of the paper for printing. The top side of the sheet in paper manufacturing.   |
| <b>Gauge Loss</b>          | Loss in blanket thickness, exceeding what is expected, in a short period of time. Can also be defined as excessive gauge loss.   |
| <b>Ghosting</b>            | Faint images of print appear in solids or halftones following the printed image.   |
| <b>Hickeys</b>             | In offset lithography, spots or imperfections in the printing due to such things as dirt on the press, dried ink skin, paper particles, etc.   |
| <b>Hydrophilic</b>         | Water receptive.   |
| <b>Hydrophobic</b>         | Water repellent.   |
| <b>Impression Cylinder</b> | In printing, the cylinder on a printing press against which the paper picks up the impression from the inked plate in direct printing, or the blanket in offset printing.            |
| <b>Impression</b>          | In printing, the pressure of type, plate, or blanket as it comes in contact with the paper.  |



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| <b>Light Print</b>              | Areas of the printed sheet where required densities can not be achieved.  |
| <b>Loss of Print at the Gap</b> | The inability to print the bleed area on the lead or tail end of the form. Normally occurs on the lead or gripper end of the form.  |
| <b>Low Spots (MD)</b>           | Small, isolated areas of the blanket that are of less gauge than the surrounding material. Normally can not be detected by touch but are visible when the surface is solvent washed.        |
| <b>Moire</b>                    | In color process printing, the undesirable screen pattern caused by incorrect screen angles of overprinting halftones.  |
| <b>Mottle</b>                   | The spotty or uneven appearance of printing, mostly in solid areas.   |
| <b>Mottled Print</b>            | The spotty or uneven appearance of printing, primarily, occurs in solids.   |
| <b>Non Alcohol System</b>       | Dampening solution that uses something other than alcohol as a wetting agent.   |
| <b>Packing</b>                  | In offset printing, paper or polyester is used to underlay the plate and blanket to get proper squeeze or pressure for printing.  |
| <b>Picking</b>                  | The lifting of the paper surface during printing. It occurs when pulling force (tack) of ink is greater than surface strength of paper.   |
| <b>Piling</b>                   | In printing, the building up or caking of ink on rollers, plate, or blanket; will not transfer readily. Also, the accumulation of paper dust or coating on the blanket of the offset press. |
| <b>Pin Holes</b>                | Small areas or holes, on the printed sheet, most apparent in solids, that do not transfer ink. These differ from hickeys by not having a dark center.                                       |
| <b>Plate Blinding</b>           | The disappearance of the image from the plate, or the inability of the plate to transfer the image to the blanket.  |
| <b>Plate Crack</b>              | The fracture of the metal, normally located at the leading edge.  |
| <b>Registration</b>             | The ability to hold and maintain required print location in the around and across direction.  |
| <b>Scum</b>                     | In offset lithography, a film of ink printing in the non-image areas of a plate where it should not print.  |
| <b>Scumming</b>                 | The occurrence of the plate taking on ink in the non-image area. Normally due to improper ink water balance.  |
| <b>Set Off</b>                  | In presswork, when the ink of a printed sheet rubs off or marks the next sheet as it is being delivered. Also, called offset.   |
| <b>Sheet/Web Release</b>        | The ability of the blanket to let go of the printed material.   |
| <b>Smash Resistance</b>         | The ability of a blanket to withstand more than normal printing pressure.   |
| <b>Smash</b>                    | The transfer of foreign material between the blanket cylinders or the plate and blanket cylinder resulting in damage to the blanket to blanket.   |
| <b>Solvent Resistance</b>       | The ability of a blanket not to swell or become tacky when exposed to liquids used to clean blankets.   |
| <b>Streaking</b>                | Areas on the printed sheet, in the across direction, that appear darker or lighter. Streaks can be uniform in location, i.e., gear streaks, or non-uniform.                                 |



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| <b>Tack</b>            | In printing inks, the property of cohesion between particles; in the separation force of ink needed for proper transfer and trapping on multicolor presses. A tacky ink has high separation forces and can cause surface picking or splitting of weak papers. |
| <b>Tinting</b>         | Contamination of the fountain solution by ink which transfers to the non-image area of the printed sheet.   |
| <b>Trap</b>            | The ability to print one ink over another.  |
| <b>Trapping</b>        | In printing, the ability to print a wet ink film over previously printed ink. Wet trapping is printing wet ink over previously printed wet ink.   |
| <b>Unit</b>            | In multicolor presses, refers to the combination of inking, plate and impression operations to print each color. A 4-color press has 4 printing units each with its own inking, plate and impression functions.   |
| <b>Waterless plate</b> | Printing plate with silicone rubber coating in non-image areas, that is printed on an offset press without dampening solution.  |
| <b>WYSIWYG</b>         | In electronic publishing, an acronym for What You See Is What You Get which means that the composite page viewed on the screen of a work station essentially represents what the printer will output.   |

