

Suggestions for Offset Pressrooms Using SC Paper

Prepress

Most printers use a line screen of 150 or 175 lines per inch, with a curve to the sheet of paper being used. We can supply white samples in advance to the printer if needed to make these adjustments.

Ink

Successful printers use low-tack ink on SCA papers to eliminate delaminating, linting, and piling issues. These inks are available from all ink suppliers, and the ink supplier should be involved from the start when a printer is going to change to SCA paper. The proper ink for the sheet is the key element determining the success of running SC paper. The proper tack and ink lubrication properties are a must when starting up the press from make ready. The normal ink tacks for supercalendered grades are around K:7, C:8, M:7, Y:6, with ink roller temperatures at 85° Fahrenheit. The ink supplier will have the ink needed in these ranges as this is normal in the industry trade.

Fountain Solution

Consult with your supplier, but most fountain solutions can be used from coated to SC papers. Conductivity @ 2800, and unit temperatures from 68° to 72° Fahrenheit are normal.

Press Units

Requires normal set up, as with coated paper.

Tension

Tension settings as with LWC. Infeed tension @ 2.4, multiplied by the roll width is a good starting point, along with a 1% gain at the chills. Some adjustments with nip settings may be needed due to the caliper difference between SC paper and coated paper.

Dryers

SC paper needs to have an exit web temperature of 260° Fahrenheit. The printer can set the temperature at what one thinks is necessary, but higher dryer temperatures tend to lower gloss and make the sheet more prone to static electricity from moisture loss.

Chill Roller Settings

Same as coated papers.

Silicone Application

Most printers use silicone to eliminate scuffing, and SC paper is the same. Static eliminators can be added at this point to help with delivery issues if necessary. Example: Downey fabric softener is used often in this industry for static.

Upper and Lower Folder, Sheeter

Adjustments are needed for caliper differences from coated to SC paper.

If any questions please contact Port Hawkesbury Paper Technical Service
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