

## TROUBLESHOOTING FOR SHEETFED AND WEB PRESSES

**BLEEDING**: Pigment dissolves or breaks down in the fountain solution causing a light discolouration of the non-printing areas.

### CAUSES

1. Ink is too low in viscosity to carry the pigment.
2. Varnish is not water-resistant.
3. Pigment is hydrophilic and bleeds in water.
4. Pigment bleeds in alcohol (Dahlgren).
5. Too much acid in fountain solution.
6. Fountain solution is extracting an emulsifier or sensitizing agent from the paper coating. (Proof: Substitution of another paper may stop the tinting.)
7. Ink emulsified and breaking down.

### REMEDIES

1. Add a high-viscosity varnish to the ink.
2. Add a high-viscosity varnish to the ink.
3. Reformulate ink with proper pigment.
4. Reformulate ink with alcohol-resistant pigment.
5. Check pH and conductivity of fountain solution and reduce acidity if necessary. Reduce amount of solution if possible.
6. Change paper.
7. Get good ink/water balance – check pH and conductivity of fountain solution.