

PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	SOLUTION
<p><b>Blinding</b> (Image does not take ink). Do not confuse image blinding with actual image loss.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Back side of plate was wet when stored against the face of another plate.</li> <li>2. Heavy gum film on the plate.</li> <li>3. Fountain solution too acidic.</li> <li>4. Ink has picked up too much water. When ink emulsifies, it loses its ability to protect the image from gum. This condition is often accompanied by roller stripping and/or washed out print.</li> <li>5. Too much gum arabic in the fountain solution.</li> <li>6. Use of gum arabic substitutes (synthetic gums).</li> <li>7. Contaminated alcohol replacement or alcohol.</li> <li>8. Detergent in water, sponge, dampeners or ductor reaching the plate.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove gum film. Dry plates and store face-to-face or back-to-back.</li> <li>2. Remove the gum with hot water.</li> <li>3. Maintain manufacturer's recommended pH levels and conductivity levels to keep from desensitizing the image.</li> <li>4. Change ink, wash up press, and correct the pH (weaken acidity). Consult ink supplier. Clean and copperize the metal rollers, if stripping occurred. Note: If metal rollers are copperized, be sure to ink them up and reclean again before running.</li> <li>5. Keep gum content at one ounce or less per gallon of solution. When using premixed fountain solution, never exceed manufacturer's recommended mix.</li> <li>6. Change to gum arabic.</li> <li>7. Try new alcohol replacement or alcohol.</li> <li>8. Thoroughly rinse ductor and dampeners with one ounce fountain concentrate to one gallon of water before installing on press. Never use detergents in water pail.</li> </ol>

9. Plate cleaners or scratch removers dried on plate.	9. Thoroughly rinse plate and sponges immediately after application.
10. Non-offset spray powder clinging to sheets.	10. Run plates through press without printing. Use less powder on initial passes through press. Try faster drying ink. Consult ink supplier.
11. Ink lacks proper tack and does not adhere to image.	11. Consult ink supplier.
12. Dryers in the ink.	12. Keep fountain solution within recommended pH range. Consult ink supplier.
13. Paper size fillers (sizing) deposited on plate.	13. Consult paper supplier.
14. Dryer stimulators added to ink.	14. Do not exceed supplier's recommendations.
15. Excessive amount of alcohol in fountain (above 20%-25%).	15. Reduce alcohol level to manufacturer's recommendations.
16. Detergents in blanket/roller/washes.	16. Thoroughly remove all traces of blanket/roller washes with water.
17. Use of emulsion-type wash-up solutions without proper rinse.	17. After wash-up, rinse the entire ink train with water.
18. Grease or oil in the ink train.	18. Clean the inking system.
19. Hard and/or glazed ink rollers.	19. Deglaze or replace rollers. Consult roller supplier.
20. Excessive use of phosphoric acid (greater than 4%-5%) for plate clean-up on web presses.	20. Use properly diluted solution. (Approximately 7 ounces per gallon of water = 5% solution).
21. Plate developed incorrectly.	21. Check processing procedures.