

TROUBLESHOOTING FOR SHEETFED AND WEB PRESSES

DOT GAIN: The halftone dots increase in size, causing the printed signature to lack sharpness.

CAUSES

1. Blankets packed incorrectly.
2. Plate imaging incorrect.
3. Improperly set rollers and pressures.
4. Rollers or blankets too soft.
5. Ink is too long in body or too low in tack.
6. Ink is too receptive to water.
7. Piling.
8. Poor plate exposure or processing.
9. Dirty dampening system.

REMEDIES

1. Check with a packing gauge. Compressible blankets require about .006" (.15mm) between plate/blanket and blanket/paper to obtain optimal print. Assure that back pressure is set properly.
2. Check exposure element on the plate to assure imaging is correct.
3. Reset rollers and pressures.
4. Condition or replace rollers or blankets.
5. Reformulate ink following recommended guidelines.
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7. Consult PILING section.
8. Desensitize or re-make plate.
9. Drain tank and re-fill with fresh fountain solution.

