

PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	SOLUTION
<p><b>Premature Plate Wear</b> Image loss.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Dirty worn dampener rollers.</li> <li>2. Heavy ink form roller settings.</li> <li>3. Abrasive ink.</li> <li>4. Solvents in the ink.</li> <li>5. Too little ink on image.</li> <li>6. Excessive use of strong cleaner.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Clean and replace, if necessary. Rinse well to remove all detergents from cloth dampeners after cleaning.</li> <li>2. Perform ink blank test to check form roller pressure. Refer to press manual for roller setting procedure.</li> <li>3. Consult with ink company for ink grind test. Dull varnishes and/or dull inks can be abrasive.</li> <li>4. Remove gum from plate with a water sponge. Apply test ink to an image area (preferably a solid) and let stand for 15 minutes. Remove ink with a solvent unharmed to plate. Any image loss can be attributed to solvents in the ink.</li> <li>5. Print with normal ink film thickness. Do not colour correct on press.</li> <li>6. Use recommended cleaner only when needed. The need to clean frequently indicates another problem.</li> </ol>

<p>7. Hard form rollers.</p>	<p>7. Hard rollers (both ink and water form) are a major cause of plate wear. Durometers of 35-40 or higher are considered excessively hard.</p>
<p>8. Use of phosphoric acid on anodized plates.</p>	<p>8. Limit concentration to 5%.</p>
<p>9. Use of pumice or pomade for cleaning.</p>	<p>9. Rinse rollers thoroughly and re-ink several times to remove abrasive materials.</p>
<p>10. Solvents in roller and blanket wash breaking down printing image.</p>	<p>10. Rub solvent on an ungummed portion of old plate. If image loss occurs, switch to a wash that doesn't damage the plate.</p>