

## TROUBLESHOOTING FOR SHEETFED AND WEB PRESSES

**RAILROAD TRACKS:** Bands of ink that may look like railroad ties are seen on the edges of the printed sheet. Also, smaller spots may be seen anywhere on the sheet, in a line, from gripper to tail.

### CAUSES

1. Emulsified ink build-up at the nip of the dampening form/dampening distributor roller. The tracks will come and go at intervals throughout the press run.
2. Foreign material on or in one of the form rollers. This could be something picked up from the stock or a sliver of aluminum from the edge of a plate, etc. This then leaves marks around the plate that pick up ink and transfer it to the printed sheet.

### REMEDIES

1. Reset dampening form roller in relation to the distributor roller. Setting is too heavy and not allowing ink and water to pass through the nip in a normal manner. Also, check pH and conductivity of the dampening solution, as too strong of a solution can cause the ink to break down.
2. Wash the rollers and carefully check the surface of each form roller in the area where the problem is seen. Remove foreign material from the roller and clean the plate with **Uni Scratch Remover**.

