

TROUBLESHOOTING FOR SHEETFED AND WEB PRESSES

WASH MARKS : Streaks of light or uneven density at the leading edge of the image, increasing in density toward the trailing edge. Wash marks appear around the plate and blanket and in the print.

CAUSES

1. Weak dampening solution must be run in an excessive amount to clean non-image areas of the plate. The ink cannot absorb the extra dampening solution.
2. Lighter line across the print.
3. Lighter area from gripper to tail (washed out) caused by a bad dampening roller.

REMEDIES

1. a) Decrease the water feed.
b) Replace the weak dampening solution with properly formulated dampening solution.
c) If dry-up scumming occurs, check the dampening solution conductivity, pH, water and alcohol content.
d) Increase the ink film thickness.
e) Replace ink if excessively emulsified.
2. The dampening form roller is slipping at the cylinder gap. Check setting and condition of dampening form roller. Run dampening in the "integrated mode."
3. Look for a low area in the rubber pan or metering roller. Replace roller if necessary.

