



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

AN EXPLANATION OF LOW VOC VERSUS LOW VAPOR PRESSURE WASHES

The U.S. EPA has recently published new guidelines for the use of low vapor pressure roller and blanket washes for offset lithography. Under the Alternative Control Techniques Document (ACT), press washes with vapor pressures less than 10 mm Hg @ 20 degrees C can be utilized, since they yield reductions in emissions similar to 30% VOC products. These guidelines have now been adopted under the CTG (Control Technology Guidelines).

This guideline will be accepted by many states as their air quality standard for lithography. A version of this ACT guideline is already in place in Southern California (SCAQMD Rule 1171) has been made even stricter by allowing printers to use only products under 100 grams per liter in VOC content. Tower has several products to meet this requirement.

Tower roller and blanket washes are in compliance with these guidelines, and have been for many years! Vapor pressure information can be found in Section 3 of our MSDS.

Please call us if you have any questions regarding this regulation.