



PRESSROOM SOLUTIONS...

TOWER PRODUCTS, INC. **TECHNICAL BULLETIN #3**

HOW TO CLEAN UP CALCIUM CARBONATE/DETERGENT BUILD UP ON ROLLERS AND BLANKETS

Many printers today are faced with a build up of detergents and/or calcium carbonate in rollers and blankets.

The major causes of detergent build up are water miscible washes containing too much surfactant; step one washes that are not properly rinsed; and maintenance cleaners that are loaded with soap compounds. The major cause of calcium carbonate build up is the change in the paper making process from acid manufacturing to an alkaline process and calcium in inks especially red ink. Barium compounds and red ink also can pose a build up problem on press and can combine with both detergents and calcium.

Contamination by either detergents or calcium carbonate can cause ink stripping, plate blinding and picture framing on the blanket. All of these factors will cause severe printing problems.

In order to determine if a contamination problem is present, wash up the rollers with very hot water. Engage the washup blade. If a milky white substance runs into the washup tray without running clear after several water applications, a contamination problem most likely exists.

CLEANING PROCEDURE

- ROLLERS:**
1. Wash up the rollers as usual to clean off the ink with a high quality wash.
 2. Wash up with very hot water. Engage washup blade.
 3. Wash up with Tower Deluxe Calcium Rinse. Engage washup blade.
 4. Wash up with water. Engage washup blade.

Repeat this procedure until the water running into the washup tray appears clear or clearer than at the start of the washup.

- BLANKETS:**
1. Wash up the blanket as usual to clean off the ink.
 2. Apply Tower Deluxe Calcium Rinse with a wet sponge to the blanket, particularly in the picture frame area.
 3. Wash up with a high quality wash .
 4. Wash up with very hot water.
- Repeat the procedure as necessary.

These procedures should be incorporated into a weekly roller and blanket maintenance program.
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