



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

Proper Plate Cleaning Techniques

The purpose of this Technical Bulletin is to explain the proper procedure to cleaning offset plates.

In the past, to remove ink from the plate, the press operator would use blanket and roller wash to remove ink from the plate surface. With today's modern plate technology, this is not recommended as the emulsions are softer and more chemically sensitive.

The removal of ink from the plate surface should only be done using Plate Cleaners that are compatible with the plate and plate manufacture you are using. Tower Products has developed several plate cleaning technology products that are compatible with all of the major plate manufactures products. They are:

- ***Tower CTP Scratch Remover***- A premium scratch remover.
- ***Tower Plate Cleaner and Preserver***-A cleaner and preserve that meets the Nestle compliance list.
- ***Tower Universal Plate Cleaner***- A stronger faster acting cleaner
- ***Tower UV Plate Cleaner FP***- A UV plate cleaner that meets the Nestle compliance list.

All of these products contain solvents that will remove ink from the plate emulsion without harming that emulsion.

The recommended proper application would be to wipe the plate cleaner of choice over plate with a soft rag or damp sponge. Then, wipe the plate clean with water or roll the plate up with water from dampening system immediately.

Use of these products will ensure proper removal of ink and lessen the chance of damage to the emulsion of the plate.