

Heatset web offset method

Hickies

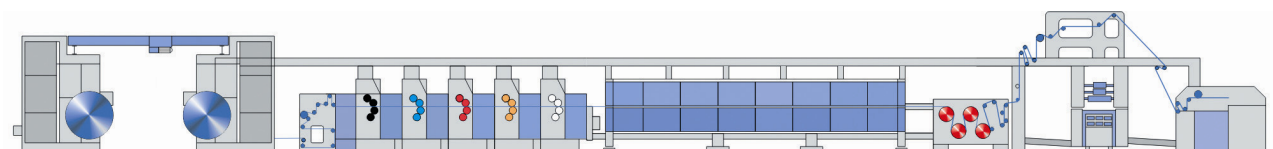
Description

Particles which are picked off the paper surface and adhere to the rubber blanket or the printing plate are called hickies. The hydrophobic particles disturb the transfer of ink to paper, wherefore the spot caused by the hickie can be seen in every copy.

In order to find out the cause on the paper machine for the hickies, one has to determine what the size and shape of the particles picked off the paper surface are, and what they consist of.

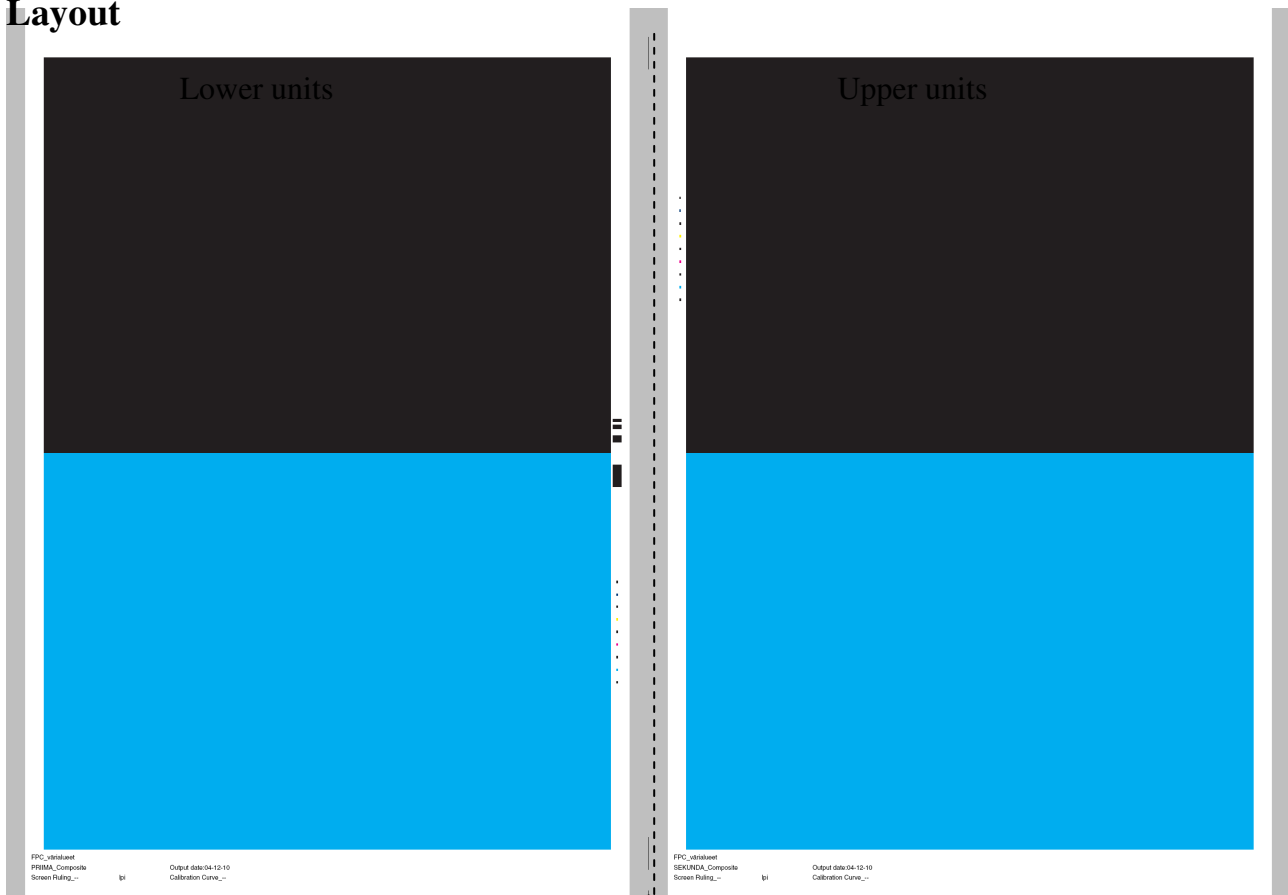
The development of hickies is usually studied in a constant print density trial. The layout includes big solid areas (black and cyan), from which the development of hickies can be observed.

The hickies printing trial requires 15 000 copies to be printed, i.e. 10 000 meters per trial point is needed. After printing 15 000 copies the number of hickies is counted from the black and cyan areas.



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Layout



Amount of paper needed:
10000 m/trial point

Measurements:

- amount of hickies after 15 000 copies (black and cyan areas)
- analyse of “primary hickie”
 - shape
 - composition of coating layer around the hickie

