

## Heatset web offset method

### Ink consumption

If you were to print millions of catalogues would you choose LWC or SC to optimize the total cost? There are different laboratory methods for evaluating the ink consumption, but in these cases the impact of fountain solution and drying are rarely taken into account. Knowing the actual ink consumption is especially important when comparing for example the total costs of printing on SC or LWC.

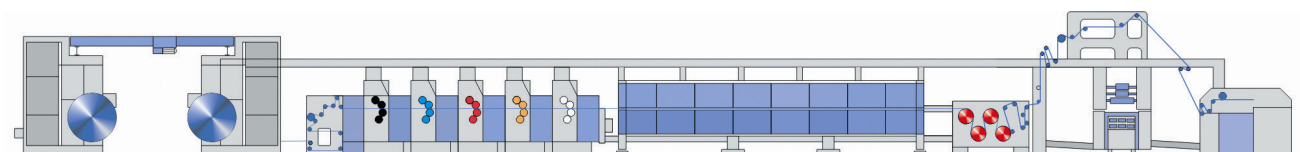
### Description

The ink consumption at a HSWO-trial at FPC is measured by weighing the ink container before and after printing a certain amount of copies. One color can be measured at a time (typically black).

The ink consumption determination is done as a constant print density trial. In order to get an accurate result, the total consumption of the ink should be high enough (approx. 3-5 kg). To ensure this, the layout should contain large areas of the studied color and the amount of print copies should be at least 20000 per trial point (approx. 15000 m/tp).

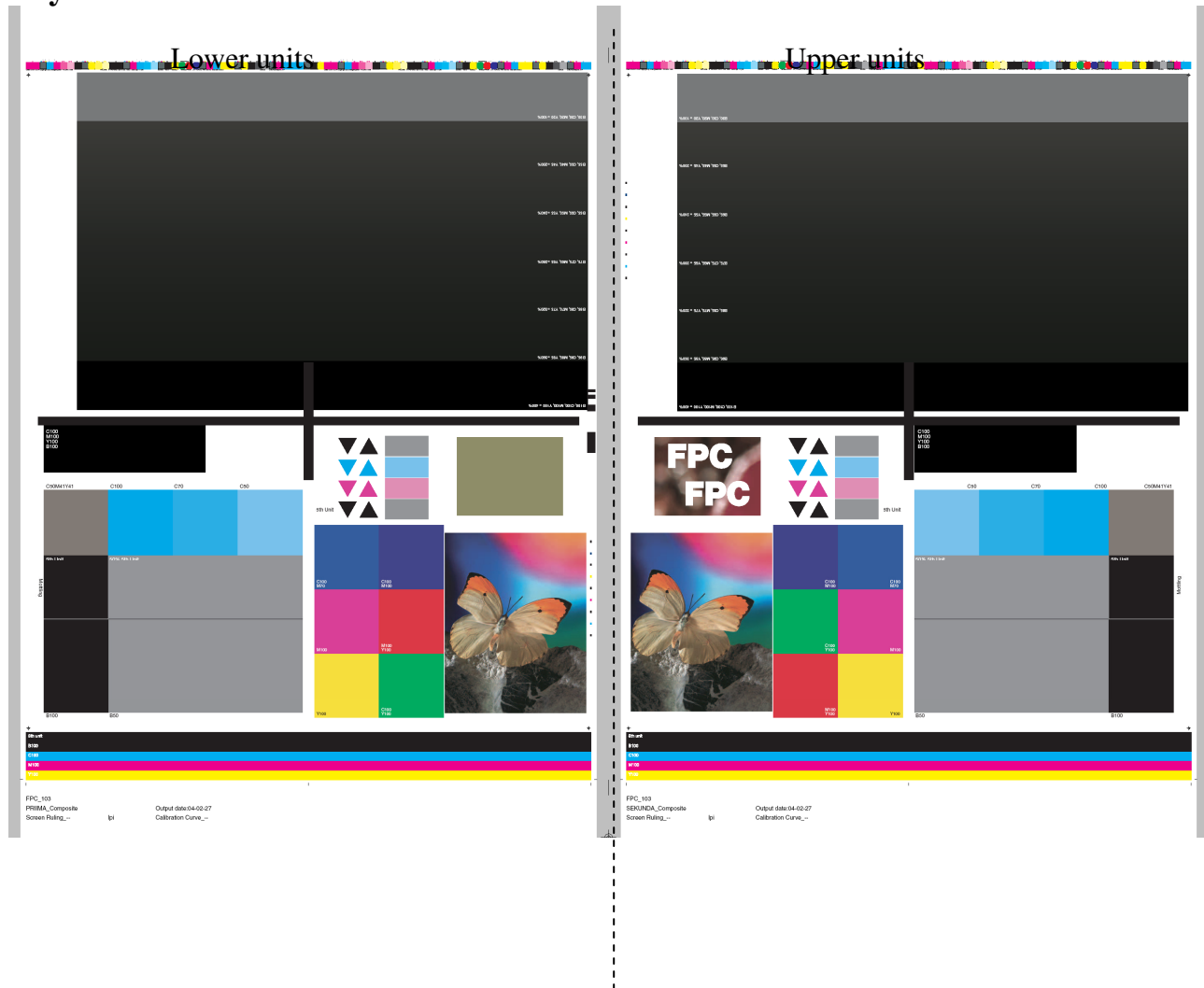
Before printing each trial point the ink ducts are filled (the ink ducts are equipped with surface level meters), a scale is placed under the ink container of the studied color, and the scale is tared. After a certain amount of copies have been printed, the ink ducts are filled and the change in weight of the ink container is determined.

Print density and other print quality properties can also be analysed from the print layout.



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**Layout**



**Amount of paper needed:**  
15000 m/trial point

**Measurements:**  
- Amount of ink (kg) used  
for a certain amount of  
copies

