

2005 NMC Conference Notes
(Courtesy of Bob Mingie – Phoenix Newspapers)

Unit Break out:

Discussion concerning plate thicknesses was discussed; most users have gone back to .012 plates due to less plate cracking and to adhere to proper specifications including impression settings.

Most everyone has adopted the latest impression setting procedures to set the bearer pressure with a .087 gage. The only concern was for the folks who have replaced cylinders and are mating a new bearer ring to a worn ring. The concern was raised when the foil stripe was checked in relationship to the gage setting and the stripe was found to be wide. Goss recommended using the gage.

Goss recommended using Paraffin wax at the edge of the blankets to reduce the amount of moisture that creeps under the blanket edge. This has been done for some time and still appears to be effective.

We discussed ink viscosity and how it effects ink transfer / print quality. This seemed to be a repeat discussion, if the ink is to thick it will not transfer correctly and if it is to thin it will not adhere to the ink drums and roller causing a transfer problem.

Targets will be added to the Snap Test page along with a Slur test.

The question was asked: What is the normal operating temperature for a press unit? GOSS; each unit can vary in temperature due to the age and how tight the tolerances were when the unit was assembled. Typically a unit will operate at temperatures between 110-140 degrees. 160 and higher are too high.

RTP break out;

The effect on the reels after cutting down to 48” was discussed. GOSS is checking into new settings and any engineering to accommodate this web width.

I asked Goss representatives why the CT 50 reels in DV are losing the bearing for at the main drive spindle. GOSS has not heard of this else where. Other CT users also have not seen this problem.

GOSS brought up the issue of Newspapers trying to paste close to the core.

Their thought is on a CT reel; is that the vendors' inconsistency in the early stage of the winding process can cause the web to break etc. They also feel all gains made in waste reduction by reducing the butt size would be lost due to just a couple paster failures.

GOSS also recommends replacing all of the expanded metal covers on the brake side of the spider arm spindles with a solid cover. This will reduce the possibility of contamination at the brake pucks. They feel heat will not be an issue by removing the expanded metal.

A few users have experimented with newer inks on the market and have had mixed results. It appears US and Flint inks are the most used.

Folders:

Nothing new. Same presentation from GOSS

Rockwell;

Rockwell gave a presentation on drive motor maintenance and testing procedures. Rockwell also provided Greg Drew with quotes for new press drives for the Mesa center (AC and DC)

I requested maintenance and troubleshooting documentation for the Allen Bradley 1395 drives used in DV. They were received and given to the electricians.

General quality;

Fountain solution; Tinting problems can be caused by inconsistent fountain solution temperatures. Water loses viscosity as the water is cooled (could cause transfer problems)

Ink viscosity will change as ink is agitated. The ink viscosity testing process should be repeated in the same manner each time it is performed.

Ink and water curves should be verified when change to consumables occur.

Thickness .010 vs. .012 plates; anyone using .010 plates should weigh the cost of a .010 plate versus the cost of additional ink when using them.

Some users have found fingerprints on the plates are coming from the plate manufacturer (brand unknown)