

Western Maintenance Conference 2003

BLANKETS

Most plants do impression setting the same way, annually or as in Santa Barbara's case 18 million impressions.

If setting right away, run in inch drive with impressions on. Most plants wait until 40,000 impressions.

Also mentioned was assuring blankets are square prior to installation.

Goss recommended checking blanket heights before setting iron to iron.

Blanket bolts must be properly torqued to ensure good blanket performance.

The proper torque sequence, 653124-421356.

1st all bolts to 50inlbs then go back to 1,2,3 bolts

2nd all bolts to 50inlbs walk on impressions.

3rd all bolts after 1st edition or 25,000 impressions.

Final torque for all bolts to 45-50 inch lbs.

Routine torque wrench calibration/checking is a must to ensure accuracy

There is a 6% to 12% stretch factor on blankets.

Use rust Vito on blankets, 2" band around blanket.

Edge seal is for delamination due to chemicals, not on the market anymore.

Discussion on blanket and impression setting PM. Newspapers do this about once a year or based on number of impressions (One paper changes every 18 million impressions). How long should blankets be installed prior to impressions being set? Comments ranged from "roll the cylinders on impression" to "about a week". The consensus was about one day. Plate wear was only being experienced by The Seattle Times. Most input suspected an ink problem and to sample the ink during the occurrence.

Save changed out blankets as a spare in case of blow-outs. That way you don't get a bad mismatch in size.

Discussion on blankets causing wrinkles. The two main points were to 1) ensure that the blankets from the supplier are square and 2) to install them in a manner that does not align the edges. This installation is across the couple and the 10 and 13 side. The consensus of the stagger was about 1/8th of an inch.