

# Comments

One constant theme on this forum is – *poor on press performance of CtP plates*, be it due to badly developed plates or poor pressmanship (not knowing the fundamentals of lithography).

*Irrespective of who manufactures the plates*, they are only sheets of Anodized Aluminium with an Oleophilic Coating image area

## Salient Points

- 1) Testing for residual coating on CtP plates – use only Image Deletion Fluid reason, this contains Hydrofluoric Acid, *using a Honing Stick damages the Anodizing Layer, deletion fluid does not*. Acetone Test – not recommended.
- 2) After using deletion fluid the area must be desensitized using a Gum Etch and dried down, a suitable Gum Etch can be made using 1part of Phosphoric Acid - 32 parts of Gum Arabic 8° Baume grade, this gum etch is useful for desensitizing Chrome Rollers also for reviving sensitized plates –for this to work successfully the Gum Etch needs to be Rubbed Dry with a slightly moist lint free cloth – the plate left as long as possible before printing again.
- 3) Optimum temperature for Dampening System Solution is – 10-13° Celsius

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