

The correct inking level for every substrate

As already explained, the appearance of a picture is strongly marked by the gloss and colour of the substrate. Hence the demand for best possible matching of the substrate used in proofing and in the production run. In order to achieve the optimum picture reproduction on the substrate in use, the inking must be set to suit the substrate.

Standardisation according to BVD/FOGRA recommends that the inking be set by visual comparison with the appropriate colour sample from a paper sample collection. The inking levels there shown for nine different characteristic papers are set in such a way that each type of paper is being offered the same ink film thickness on the blanket. In this way, negative effects such as darkening of the colour and filling-in of shadows are largely avoided.

The illustrations on the left-hand side of the print sample included with this booklet show the effect of optimum inking for the paper concerned. Even on the lighter paper qualities, an astonishingly good impression is to be observed. On the right-hand side, by contrast, an attempt has been made to redress the naturally rather suppressed appearance of colours on lightweight papers by means of an increased thickness of the ink film. Surprisingly, the colour appearance is not improved. On the contrary, the process colours are darkened and the shadows lose some of their detail.

Print samples demonstrating the effect of different inking levels are included in the back cover fold.

