

The course is a 5-day workshop conducted on a practical level using RIT's web offset facilities. The web offset plant and laboratory is staffed by full-time research and production personnel including a full-time press crew to man the ATF 4-unit perfecting web offset press. The RIT Reporter, which is the Institute's weekly newspaper, is made part of the course and produced by trainees using the complete facilities and equipment for newspaper production.

For most members attending the course it is the first opportunity for the individual to become personally involved with the various methods and equipment that make up a web offset operation. Executives considering web offset for their own business find this first hand acquaintance with web offset not only valuable in conducting their own printing operation but also of value in their responsibilities of buying and establishing a new web offset operation. Production personnel involved, many who have no experience in any kind of lithography, find the experience gained in workshop sessions most valuable. The courses have been very useful to sales and technical service personnel from paper, ink, plate, and press companies.

This program, although conducted in the "Web" Offset Laboratory, has proven advantageous, too, to small weekly newspaper publishers using sheet-fed equipment because the course content covers procedures common to either sheet-fed or web-fed press equipment.

A typical schedule for this course includes workshop sessions, demonstrations, and discussions covering cold type versus hot type systems, paste-up, reproduction proof, camerawork, stripping, platemaking, and presswork. Dispersed in among the workshop sessions are lectures and discussions covering paper, paper problems, ink, and general printing problems.

Most of the courses conducted are made up of one to three individuals per company with a total of six to eight people in each course. Representing the highest attendance from any one company so far is Grit Publishing Company, Williamsport, Pa., sending 19 of their personnel in production, supervisory, and executive positions. A close second in number of attendance is R. Hoe and Company having initiated their course January 1961 by sending 18 of their sales and engineering staff.

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