



# Technical Services Report

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# Image Control Marks System

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## INTRODUCTION

A common practice in printing production is to produce register marks, trim marks, and side-guide marks for each job by hand-ruling, cutting, scribing, or scratching. Each artist, stripper, and press operator has a different technique of producing the marks. The resulting marks vary in

size, thickness, edge sharpness, and position. This report discusses the advantages of using four standardized image control marks—OK register marks for camera copy; T-marks for trims, centers, and bleeds; side-guide marks for sheet-to-sheet register; collating marks for signature

identification—and illustrates how to apply the marks at each stage of printing production. Using image control marks properly is an important part of achieving smooth production flow from copy preparation to binding operations.