

# Water Interference Mottling

Erik, leave aside the claims made by you for “*Ink Blade Transfer*”. Water Interference Mottling (WIT), does exist just one of many variable inputs in litho printing.

Paper that is not sufficiently water-absorbent. During offset printing, the ink on the plate image builds up moisture content sometimes as high as 30%. This is in the form of water -in-ink emulsion. When transferred from plate to blanket this ink film splits, exposing fine water droplets. If these water droplets are not *absorbed* by the paper surface during the instant of impression, they act as a barrier and prevent the ink from trapping. As a result, printed solids and shadow tones are full of microscopic white areas and have a characteristic weak, washed-out appearance.

Regards, Alois



