



Cyrel® Packaging Graphics Products

Guide to printing with Digital Cyrel®

Digital Cyrel® plates provide the flexo printer-converter with the opportunity to improve the overall quality of their printing while obtaining measurable pressroom productivity improvements. Although similar to traditional Cyrel®, there are a few differences in handling and press set-up that should be kept in mind to ensure optimum results.

Handling

Cleaning To the naked eye the digital Cyrel® looks and feels like conventional Cyrel®. Under close examination however, you'll see the difference. Conventional highlight dots are conical in shape with a flat top. Digital highlight dots are smaller and the top of the dot is rounded, which contributes to the superior printing for both screens and linework. However, since the dots are smaller, it is recommended that you review your plate cleaning process to ensure that the plate is compatible with your cleaning agents and methods.

Plate Life The polymers used in digital Cyrel® are similar to conventional Cyrel®, and experience has shown us that digital Cyrel® will often run even longer. Remember though, that the minimum dot size on a digital plate is likely to be quite a bit smaller than conventional, so be careful to avoid extreme over-implosion of either plate to anilox or plate to substrate.

Tape

Use the same tapes you would for your normal process printing (low to medium density). Where you have a combination plate with both screens and solids, we recommend a medium tape to ensure good solid coverage. The impression latitude that digital Cyrel® provides is beneficial on combination plates.

Anilox

All the data is not yet in, but early evidence suggests that "dot dipping" is not a big problem with digital plates due to their uniformity. If that's true, the ideal anilox will be that which provides sufficient ink for good solids without printing dirty screens. If solids are good and screens are clean, then the tone curve can be adjusted in prepress.

Impression

Proper setting of impression is the key to optimizing the quality and productive advantages of digital Cyrel®. All three steps should be carefully followed.

1. **Set Anilox impression** - give adequate anilox impression to ensure uniform ink coverage across the plate without over impressing.
2. **Set plate to substrate impression** - Set plate to achieve light kiss impression - ensure that at least 90% of the image area is printing with only very small areas lightly skipping. Our experience indicates that digital plates actually benefit from a little more impression, so set the impression at .0015" to .002" over kiss.
3. **Re-set anilox impression** - Once the plate to substrate impression is correct, fine tune your anilox impression by backing off until the image starts to fade, then come back in just enough to correct the fade with uniform image quality across the web.

Note: Any time during the run you reset the plate to substrate impression you should re-set the anilox.

Additional Recommendations

- Run your fingerprint tests at full production speed for at least 15 minutes for most accurate results.
- When running your fingerprint remember that your objective is not to make a "pretty fingerprint", but to run like you will in production. Don't do anything different than you want to do on a live job.

Additional Assistance

Contact your local DuPont Technical Representative or Your Cyrel® Digital Tradeshop

Call DuPont U.S. 1-800-345-9999 (prompt 1,5)

Mexico: (5) 722-1248

Canada 1-800-827-5772

<http://www.dupont.com/cyrel>