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# SOLID INK DENSITY ANALYSIS FOR WEB-FED PUBLICATION PRESSES: A CASE STUDY OF HT MEDIA LTD., LUCKNOW

Swati<sup>\*1</sup> & Hitesh Garg<sup>2</sup>

<sup>\*1</sup>Department of Printing Technology GJUS&T, Hisar <sup>2</sup>Sterling Publishers Pvt. Ltd., Greater Noida

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#### **ABSTRACT**

This paper throws light on solid ink density analysis which has beentop print quality concern for newspaper printing organizations. Objectives of this paper is to study WAN-IFRA standards used in the newspaper and after final printing the density was evaluated on solid ink patches to match with. For the more accurate evaluations, density is checked at more than one area covering all sides of the newspapers. The density pattern was checked for Cyan, Magenta, Yellow and blacksequentially on newspapers on different towers and deviations were analyzed.

KEYWORDS: Quality, Solid Ink Density, WAN-IFRA, Density Deviation, Print Quality Standard.

#### I. INTRODUCTION

Solid ink density is the measurement of a solid printed patch on the substrate or paper including the paper density. It is generally related to ink film thickness and helps in controlling dot gain while printing. A densitometer is required for measuring the solid ink density that reads print density. Printing industries are increasingly adopting digital technologies to complement or replace analog ones. The terms digital and analog (or analogue) designate both types of signals for representing data and methods of print reproduction. Analog signals and computers rely on discontinuous patterned transmissions of discrete amounts of electricity of light to communicate data. Digital printing requires minimal press set-up and has multi-colour registration built-in to its system. This eliminates many of the front-end time consuming processes and permits quick response and just-in time print delivery. Digital processes can vary every print "on-the-fly" i.e. while production printing, providing which permits printing of substrates without touching or disturbing them. This eliminates image distortion encountered "in some analog processes such as screen printing. It also does not require as aggressive substrate hold down methods which can distort or damage some substrates such as fabrics. Solid ink density is also a very important properties for print quality.

## II. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

• Objective of this paper is to find density pattern in newspaper and deviations it bears while compared with WAN IFRA standards.

## III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

To measure the solid ink density for web-fed; good copies received were checked for ink density analysis and after that check the density tabs on the bottom of the paper in HT Media Ltd, Lakhnau. D-19 C densitometer is taken for the measurement. Set the densitometer in **Status** –ISO E, **Illumination** – D 50, **Observer** -  $2^{\circ}$ , Mode – relative, measure paper white. Then measure the samples taking C M Y K as the sequence. Now fill up format with respective values. Analysis was done on the values, which are collated through linking the various files.



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IV. DATA COLLECTION

Whit if it is 12047 2.2013) Sumara for Web Offset I abacaton Presses					
Inks	Solid Ink Density				
Cyan	0.90				
Magenta	0.90				
Yellow	0.90				
Black	1.10				

	Production Data Hindustan Times												
										RIGHT SIDE			
	Pg. no.	LEFT SIDE POSITION			MIDDLE POSITION				POSITION				
		С	Μ	Y	K	C	Μ	Y	K	С	Μ	Y	K
Tower													
1	5	0.93	0.93	0.99	1.05	0.78	0.93	0.88	1.08	0.79	0.88	0.88	1.10
	6	0.86	0.73	0.76	1.15	0.79	0.79	0.59	1.07	0.85	0.85	0.71	1.14
	19	0.93	1.07	0.69	1.30	0.85	0.95	0.66	1.30	0.93	0.94	0.60	1.32
	20	0.85	0.93	0.90	1.15	0.94	0.95	0.85	0.98	1.01	0.91	0.71	1.08
Tower													
2	7	0.92	0.94	0.93	1.13	0.95	0.90	0.88	1.11	0.95	0.85	0.86	1.13
	8	0.90	0.87	0.91	1.10	0.85	0.91	0.94	1.09	0.86	0.90	0.81	1.15
	17	0.82	1.02	0.90	0.92	0.88	1.07	0.97	0.99	0.85	0.93	0.91	0.98
	18	0.89	0.99	0.93	1.11	0.80	0.94	0.99	1.15	0.87	0.94	0.99	1.15
Mono													
for													
Black													
only	9	-	-	-	1.07	-	-	-	1.12	-	-	-	0.96
	10	-	-	-	1.20	-	-	-	1.30	-	-	-	1.15
	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tower		-	-	-		-	-	-		-	-	-	
3	11				-				-				-
	12	0.94	0.88	0.92	1.15	0.89	0.89	0.90	1.14	0.87	0.92	0.85	1.13
	13	0.95	0.99	0.85	1.09	0.95	1.01	0.85	1.09	0.93	0.91	0.85	1.09
	14	0.89	0.90	0.86	1.10	0.91	0.90	0.90	1.08	0.87	0.89	0.89	1.08
Tower													
4	1	0.87	0.95	0.88	1.10	0.90	0.93	0.93	1.05	1.06	0.98	0.93	1.01
	2	0.85	0.93	0.90	1.15	0.94	0.95	0.85	0.98	1.01	0.91	0.71	1.08
	23	0.95	1.03	0.80	1.22	1.00	1.03	0.85	1.20	0.93	0.95	0.74	1.27
	24	0.86	0.92	0.99	1.05	0.87	0.99	0.95	1.12	0.86	0.93	0.91	1.08
Tower													
5	3												
	4	0.86	0.89	0.85	1.24	0.90	0.95	0.77	0.99	0.87	0.91	0.76	1.09
	21	0.90	0.91	0.79	1.05	0.85	0.88	0.82	1.15	0.85	0.88	0.94	1.05
	22	0.87	0.92	0.91	1.05	0.87	0.87	1.05	1.05	0.82	0.90	0.95	1.09
Avg.		0.88	0.91	0.85	1.11	0.87	0.9	0.88	1.06	0.85	0.89	0.88	1.08

# WAN-IFRA (ISO 12647-2:2013) Standard for Web Offset Publication Presses



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Average Density on Machine Production Line						
Inks	Solid Ink Density					
Cyan	0.87					
Magenta	0.90					
Yellow	0.86					
Black	1.08					



Possible Deviation Analysis

## V. CONCLUSION

- 1. WAN IFRA is becoming popular Solid Ink Density Standards among various newspaper printing organizations.
- 2. The density deviation was found only 0.03, 0.00, 0.04 and 0.02 in CMYK while compared with WAN-IFRA standards
- 3. There is only negligible density deviation, the HT organization was bearing.
- 4. The organization follows standards strictly.

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