

LITHOTECH INTERNATIONAL P/L

A.B.N. 12 086 458 442

Innovative products for the printing industry

TROUBLESHOOTING DAMPENING SYSTEMS		
PROBLEM	PROBABLE CAUSE	CORRECTIVE ACTION
1. Scumming Non-image area of plate accepting ink	1) Insufficient Fount 2) Running excessive ink 3) Insufficient desensitising 4) Plate improperly exposed	1) Check alcohol reading /pH and adjust to proper level 2) Adjust water balance / ink 3) Check for glazing on ink roller, blanket and dampening roller 4) Replace plate
2. Toning / Tinting Fine ink particles adhere to non-image area of plate and appear on sheet as a tint	1) Ink emulsification 2) Incorrect alcohol / pH 3) Plate improperly exposed 4) Improper ink and / or dampener roller settings	1) Replace with fresh ink and reduce water dampening 2) Check alcohol reading / pH and adjust to proper level 3) Replace plate 4) Check setting on both ink dampener rollers and adjust if necessary
3. Ink Roller Stripping Ink rollers do not accept ink	1) Running excessive water 2) Fountain solution too acidic 3) Glazed or worn roller	1) Adjust water / ink balance to run less water especially with 2in1 fount 2) Check alcohol reading / pH and adjust to proper level 3) Replace or clean roller
4. Poor Ink Drying Ink does not dry causing set-off, scuffing or problems in delivery	1) Fountain solution too acidic 2) Running excessive ink and / or water 3) Stock is unsuitable for printing due to water content or porosity 4) Ink has taken on too much water	1) Check alcohol reading / pH and adjust to proper level 2) Adjust ink /water balance 3) Replace stock 4) Replace with fresh ink and reduce water dampening
5. Plate is Blinding Plate has low print contrast or does not accept ink all over	1) Fountain solution is too strong 2) Excessive densities in the fountain solution 3) Running excessive water 4) Cleaners have dried on a plate image area	1) Check alcohol / pH and adjust to proper level 2) Replace fountain solution with 2in1 fount 3) Adjust water / ink balance 4) Wet wash plate to remove dried cleaner
6. Improper Ink / Water Balance Maintaining print quality is difficult due to ink build up, emulsification or piling	1) Running excessive water 2) Fountain solution too weak 3) Ink is taking on too much water 4) Running excessive ink	1) Reduce dampener settings 2) Check alcohol reading / pH and adjust to higher level 3) Replace with more water resistant ink 4) Reduce ink roller settings
7. Conductivity and pH outside recommended parameters pH is critical if > 6 buffer has been overpowered	1) Contamination of dampening system with wash up and other chemicals 2) Dosing is not correct not enough fount in system	1) Dump fountain solution and recharge system 2) Check alcohol level, temperature and conductivity and adjust
10. Plate Wear Plate breaks down or sharpens prematurely	1) Alcohol reading is too high 2) Running excessive ink 3) Rollers set too hard	1) Check alcohol / pH and adjust to lower level 2) Reduce ink roller settings 3) Reduce pressures on the rollers
FOR FURTHER ASSISTANCE USE CONTACT INFORMATION ON WEB www.lti.com.au		