



Australian Government

ICPPRP2680 Produce flexographic photopolymer plates

Release: 1

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Modification History

Release	Comments
Release 1	This version first released with ICP Printing and Graphic Arts Training Package Version 4.0.

Application

This unit describes the skills and knowledge required to make flexographic plates from digital inputs.

It applies to individuals who select, prepare, process and finish photopolymer plates to meet the job specifications.

No licensing, legislative or certification requirements apply to this unit at the time of publication.

Unit Sector

Pre-Press

Elements and Performance Criteria

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
<i>Elements describe the essential outcomes.</i>	<i>Performance criteria describe the performance needed to demonstrate achievement of the element.</i>
1. Prepare to produce plate	1.1 Identify job specifications and enterprise procedures 1.2 Identify and select plate and software options according to printing requirements 1.3 Confirm layer negatives 1.4 Plan extra exposure masking by examining layer and cut exposure masks according to printing requirements 1.5 Calculate amount of plate material required for economical use according to job specifications
2. Expose plate	2.1 Identify manufacturer specifications for required equipment 2.2 Use digital equipment to establish required front and back exposure time 2.3 Expose plate

ELEMENT	PERFORMANCE CRITERIA
	2.4 Monitor and adjust exposure unit and vacuum frame according to manufacturer specifications
3. Develop plate	3.1 Monitor and adjust chemistry balance according to manufacturer specifications 3.2 Monitor and adjust washout unit according to manufacturer specifications 3.3 Wash plate out to pre-determined depth pre-set by front and back exposures
4. Finish plate	4.1 Dry plate in a drying oven according to manufacturer specifications for temperature and timing 4.2 Clean back of the plate 4.3 Post-expose plate 4.4 Light finish plate
5. Establish and maintain a chemical register	5.1 Establish chemical register to identify and describe purpose of each chemical and confirm finished plate meet job specifications 5.2 Identify and register all chemicals used in the workplace according to enterprise and workplace health and safety (WHS) requirements

Foundation Skills

This section describes those language, literacy, numeracy and employment skills that are essential to performance but not explicit in the performance criteria.

Skill	Description
Reading	Identifies and evaluates text to establish job requirements
Numeracy	Identifies a range of everyday mathematical information used in familiar and routine tasks
Self-management	Complies with and follows organisational procedures within scope of own role
Planning and Organising	- Determines priorities and sequences steps involved in clearly defined, familiar tasks and identifies and assembles resources required - Takes responsibility for planning and organising own workload, identifying ways of sequencing and combining elements for greater efficiency
Problem Solving	Applies analytical processes to resolve technical problems and initiates standard procedures when responding to familiar problems

	within immediate context
Technology	Identifies purposes, specific functions and key features of flexographic photopolymer plate equipment and tools and operates them to produce plates to requirements

Unit Mapping Information

Supersedes and is equivalent to ICPPRP268 Make photopolymer plates (flexographic).

Links

Companion Volume Implementation Guide is found on VETNet -

<https://vetnet.gov.au/Pages/TrainingDocs.aspx?q=a74b7a0f-a253-47e3-8be0-5d426e24131d>

Assessment Requirements for ICPPRP2680 Produce flexographic photopolymer plates

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Performance Evidence

The candidate must demonstrate the ability to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of the unit, including evidence of the ability to:

- produce two flexographic plates with different characteristics.

In the course of the above, the candidate must:

- identify the substrate for reproduction and ensure plate quality is fit for the identified printing processes.

Knowledge Evidence

The candidate must be able to demonstrate knowledge to complete the tasks outlined in the elements, performance criteria and foundation skills of this unit, including knowledge of:

- the effect flexographic ink has on selection of plate material
- quality control devices used in the exposure and development process
- computer-to-plate (CTP) processes and their differences with traditional film-to-plate
- industry-standard software and hardware for producing plates from digital inputs
- the effect of 'shoulder' on the printing process
- methods of overcoming 'orange peel effect'
- effects of chemicals used in detaching
- methods to counteract image elongation
- properties of poor plate processing and how to avoid it
- the criteria for plate proof evaluation
- the work health and safety (WHS) requirements for working with photopolymer plates and chemicals
- manuals, and work health and safety documentation, including their location and purpose.

Assessment Conditions

Skills in this unit must be demonstrated in a workplace or simulated environment where the conditions are typical of those in a working environment in this industry. Noise levels, production flow, interruptions and time variances must be typical of those experienced in the area of work.

This includes access to:

- flexographic printing plates
- photopolymer plate printers
- industry-standard software
- a drying oven.

Assessors of this unit must satisfy the requirements for assessors in applicable vocational education and training legislation, frameworks and/or standards.

Links

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