Process Control for Flexo Seminar

Location: Harris A. Smith Auditorium

Day 1

8:30  Program Overview and Introductions

9:00  Review of Flexographic Printing
   A comprehensive review of the flexographic printing process and the variables in play.

10:15  Break

10:30  Colors and Dots
   Ultimately flexo printing involves managing halftone dots and color onto a substrate. This session will cover the measurement of color and dot area as tools for process control.

12:00  Lunch

1:00  Ink
   Components of ink formulation, ink measurement and troubleshooting.

2:00  Anilox
   In order to deliver a precise amount of ink to the plate, an anilox roller is employed. Proper selection and maintenance of this critical component will be reviewed.

3:00  Breakout Session: Hands-On Ink Characteristics
   Ink drawdowns, pH and viscosity measurement.

4:00  Breakout Session: Anilox Care and Maintenance
   Proper cleaning techniques, testing anilox volume, and effect of volume on color.

5:00  End of Day

5:30  Group Dinner
Day 2

8:30  Digital Platemaking  
Imaging and processing a flexo printing plate is a complex task, this session will break down variables and how to measure them in the plateroom.

9:15  Industry Standards and Specifications  
ISO, FIRST, G7, etc… how can each of these acronyms helps with process control?

9:50  Break

10:00  Breakout Session: Plateroom Measurements  
Stain test, light output, relief measurement and more.

11:00  Breakout Session: Press Characterization  
Run characterization to gather color and print information.

12:00 Lunch

1:00  Proofing for Flexography  
Predicting results is a critical part of process control. Review options for color proofing hardware and software, the workflow of how to set it up, and how to ensure it remains accurate.

1:45  Screening and Curves  
Dot shape, bump curves, and compensation curves are all essential for maintaining predictable results.

2:15  Break

2:30  Breakout Session: Hands-On Proofing  
Walkthrough setup and control of an inkjet proofing system.

3:45  Breakout Session: Spectrophotometry  
Hands-on with spectrophotometers: color, color difference and dot area measurements.

5:00  End of Day
Day 3

8:30  Hands-On Pressroom Challenge
The group will tend to a press run with many issues and use the tools you’ve learned during this course to problem solve.

10:30  Inline Measurement Devices
Inline spectrophotometers and web inspection are making process control faster, learn how this new technology works with a firsthand demonstration.

11:00  Press Maintenance
The printing press itself requires ongoing maintenance for peak performance. Learn which components are most critical to success, and how to best monitor them.

11:45  Q&A and Evaluations

12:00  Adjourn