

Standard Process Inks

In order to prevent varying statements about standardisation in offset printing and standard printing inks, we would like to explain here, in more detail, the ISO standards 2846-1 and 12647-2, which are appearing increasingly in discussions and articles.

ISO standard 2846-1 is a worldwide standard regarding the standardisation of colour shades of offset inks. This standard determines the colour shade of laboratory proofs on the standard coated paper APCO II/II within a defined range of ink-film thicknesses (g/m^2). This is used by printing ink manufacturers to set the ink colour shade within the permitted colour tolerance range.

We can confirm that all our current process inks meet the colour shades specified by ISO 2846-1.

Note: Irrespective of ink manufacturer and ink series there are process printing inks, which meet the colorimetric data required by ISO 2846-1, but are unable to fulfil this standard within the required ink thickness, due to the increased colour strength of modern printing inks and the somewhat warmer colour shades required by the market. This is mainly due to the fact that these standard colour shades relate to fixed ink thicknesses and not, as is usually the case with offset printing, to ink density.

Since ISO 2846-1 refers only to laboratory proofs printed on a standard paper, which is not usually used in practice, an ISO standard was set up, which was practice-oriented. This standard, ISO 12647-2 takes into account various classes of paper as well as the relevant densities. Today, together with the pre-press stage, this standard is considered to be the base of offset printing standardisation as recommended by the German Association of Printers and the Fogra.

This standard specifies colour shades of 4-colour prints with corresponding tolerances. As opposed to ISO 2846-1 the colorimetric data are defined for different classes of paper .

All our current standard process inks conform to ISO standard 12647-2, which is important for standardisation of the printing process.

Technical Review



25.04.2019

Sheetfed

Page 2 of 2

At this point it must once again be clearly stated that a standardisation in offset printing cannot be reached by specified colour shades alone. This whole process, of course, should be considered: pre-press, dot gain, fluctuations during press run as well as the various paper classes. All these criteria are combined in ISO 12647-2 and, as already mentioned, form the basis for standardisation. Consequently the colour standards published by the German Association of Printers refer to the respective paper classes and colorimetric data of ISO 12647-2.

Flint CPS Inks Germany GmbH
Commercial, Publication &
Sheetfed Inks
Sieglestrasse 25
70469 Stuttgart, Germany

T +49 711 98 16-0
F +49 711 98 16-700
sheetfed@flintgrp.com
www.flintgrp.com

The aim of our technical documents is to inform and advise our customers. The information provided herein is correct to the best of Flint Group's knowledge. No liability for any errors, facts or opinions is accepted. Customers must satisfy themselves as to the suitability of this product for their application. No responsibility for any loss as a result of any person placing reliance on any material contained herein will be accepted.

Product names followed by ® are trademarks registered by Flint Group (represented by Flint CPS Inks Holdings LLC or Flint CPS Inks Germany GmbH).