

What is a

Drop In?

Cut paper sheets are dropped into a running web printing press.

Step 1

Set test variables and procedure with our professional full-time staff.

Step 2

Send samples to Western.

Step 3

Run press to obtain registration at optimum speed.

Step 4

Drop the prepared samples onto the moving carrier web.

Step 5

Recover samples and have Western analyze the print results or we will ship them directly back to you for testing.



WESTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

For More Information

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Printability

Drop Ins



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Services
for
Industry

Gravure Drop In

Let us drop in your test sheets into Western's 4-color Cerutti gravure press. The cylinder print width is 23" (585 mm) and vertical repeat is 35" (890 mm). Electrostatic Assist (ESA) is available, or run your test samples without the ESA. Standard ink setup is solvent based, but waterbase is also available. Cover photo shows a test sheet ready to drop into the running gravure press web.

Sample Size:

Minimum: 2.5" wide (65 mm wide)
Maximum: 12" X 35" (305 mm X 890 mm)

Flexo Drop In

Western can also drop in your test sheets into a 3-color Comco flexographic press. The plate width is 9.5" (240 mm) and vertical repeat is 15" (380 mm). Select your choice of various anilox rolls and ink types including waterbase, solvent and UV inks. Paper grades include all publication grades plus label stock, boxboard, and pre-preprint testing of linerboard.

Sample Size:

Minimum: none
Maximum: 8" X 10" (200 mm X 255 mm)



Test sheet ready to drop into the flexo press.

Lab Coat & Production Print

Western provides production printed samples of your hand coated or laboratory coated samples. We also can provide pre and post print paper testing services that can save you time and free up your valuable testing labor.



Sheet coated using a CLC-6000™ cylindrical laboratory coater at WMU. Sample will be cut down into sheets that will be dropped into the gravure or flexo press.

Benefits of Western's Drop In

- Small sample size, quick results
- No minimum basis weight
- No rolls to slit, label or ship
- Same location can also provide printability analysis
- Better than a proof press, i.e., multiple colors, production speeds, and production inks
- You'll even receive a press conditions report.

Make a Western drop in part of your printability protocol

Western offers a complete line of printability testing services. We can evaluate your pre-print or post-print samples provided by your customer during the press run at Western. Because of our close tie to the paper-making and paper coating disciplines, Western is an excellent evaluation resource for both substrate surface factors contributing to printability as well as characterizing the printed results.



Removing a dropped in sheet off the gravure press.

Your Next Step...

Contact Western Michigan University for pricing and scheduling information at (269) 387-2929 or doug.cox@wmich.edu.

Visit

www.wmupilotplant.com for more information on the other equipment and services of Western Michigan University's pilot plants.