



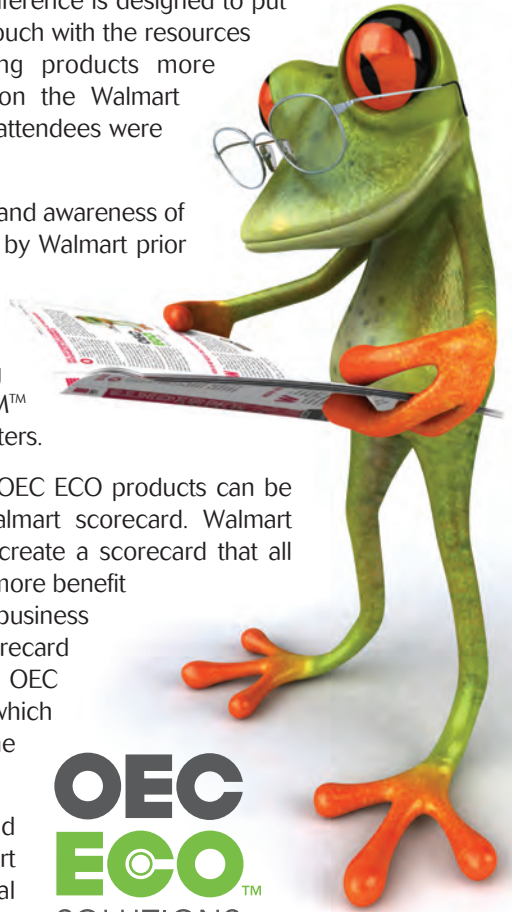
OEC SUCCESSFULLY EXHIBITS AT WALMART SUSTAINABILITY CONFERENCE

OEC was honored to receive an invitation to exhibit at Walmart's Sustainability Conference held in Bentonville, AK, April 6-8. The conference is designed to put Consumer Product Group companies in touch with the resources and information to learn about making products more sustainable, as well as educate them on the Walmart scorecard. Approximately 200 exhibitors and 2,000 attendees were reported with 500 Walmart representatives on-site.

This event was a great opportunity for OEC to build brand awareness of OEC ECO™ Solutions. We were thoroughly screened by Walmart prior to our attendance in order to ensure that buyers knew we had something tangible to offer, not just greenwashing. OEC was then able to present our OEC ECO sustainable packaging solutions, including Twinlock™, Seamex®, Plate Cleaner and OEC-DFM™ to Walmart buyers, CPG Brand Managers and Converters.

OEC also discovered that the benefits derived from OEC ECO products can be translated into a 5% innovation credit on the Walmart scorecard. Walmart partnered with the Environmental Defense Fund to create a scorecard that all vendors are measured against. A higher score yields more benefit for the environment and in turn, Walmart wants to do business with you. OEC can now help vendors add to their scorecard if they choose us as a prepress supplier and utilize OEC ECO products. We also had an eco calculator onsite which helped companies put real dollars and cents against the sustainable value we bring to the table.

In addition to exhibiting, OEC was invited to attend classes given by Walmart corporate including Walmart score card training, Success Stories in General Merchandise and Success Stories in Food Products.



**OEC
ECO™
SOLUTIONS**

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VISUALSIGHTS

INSIDE

OEC Adopts Lean Manufacturing

OEC Installs First Esko Laser

OEC at INFO*FLEX

NOW

Available in
HIGH DEFINITION FLEXO



: OEC PLATES AND SLEEVES

When EskoArtworks recently introduced their HD Flexo plate making technology, OEC was ready, willing and able to step up as one of the first US installations. Installed at OEC in November 2009, EskoArtworks HD Flexo consists of sophisticated screening technologies in combination with 4,000-dpi, high-resolution laser optics. HD Flexo drives more pixels of information to the plate, resulting in; sharper imaging of text and line art, more clearly defined, better shaped screens, and lower dot gains.

HD Flexo is available in both flat plates and in-the-round (ITR) sleeves upon request. Customers must go through an HD optimization process to maximize the HD Flexo technology's success with their presses. Numerous OEC HD Flexo FTA awards indicate that HD Flexo is worth the switch for those converters that are driven by quality and technology. If you'd like to learn more about HD Flexo and how it can work for you, contact your OEC sales representative or Brad Vette at 920-420-2614.



When the printing industry thinks of the term moiré it is often thought of as an undesirable print pattern resulting from interference between two or more screen angles in a color separation. Moiré can also be the result of plate misalignment, slurring, slipping or register movement in the press. A one color moiré can exist if there is a screen angle interference with the anilox roll engraving. Today, the vast majority of anilox rolls in the Flexographic printing industry are engraved at 60° and the application of standard angles in the halftone or color separation does not cause a problem.

Another very common moiré can often be found on screened photopolymer printing plates, but not always in the print produced from these plates.

This type of moiré has always been present in films processed thru an imagesetter. In the conventional photopolymer plate exposure process, UV light is diffused as it passes thru the vacuum cover sheet (kreen) and the plate film. This diffusion of UV light is enough to soften or even remove any visible pattern on the plate.

There are additional factors in the photopolymer plate manufacturing process that can cause a moiré-like appearance, either single or multi-color.

As the photopolymer plate making process has evolved from conventional to laser imaged digital, this single color moiré phenomenon did not go away. Actually it has become more of a concern. Given that the exposure process in digital plate manufacture does not involve film, the UV light is not diffused. It is transmitted directly to the photopolymer thru the carbon black mask which is an integral part of the photopolymer surface. Therefore, any patterns caused by the CTP device (laser), ripping software or other digital factors become more pronounced. To some degree this pattern is present in almost every digital plate manufactured by any vendor. It is important to remember that the vast majority of plates made with a slight pattern in them print perfectly fine. As the plate receives ink and dot gain occurs in the flexo printing process this pattern is diffused and minimized.

If the pattern in the plate is too severe it is possible for it to show in the final print. In some cases, if the situation cannot be resolved in the prepress arena, changes may be necessary to the design. The end-use customer, printer and the prepress provider may need to be involved in the communications. A solution to these types of rare interferences can always be found if changes can be made to the design criteria.

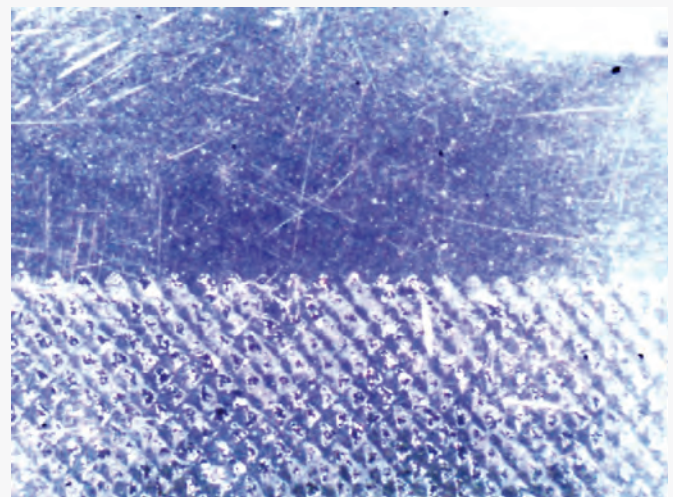
There is another potential cause for the creation of a one color moiré and that is:

1. If a screened image is reverse printed, that is, the copy is reading thru the film, with or without a back-up white ink.
2. The end product is an adhesive laminated structure and the print is "buried" in the lamination.
3. The printed piece is laminated to clear film, and the adhesive is being applied by an engraved roll.

Depending on the type of solvent being used in the adhesive and the line count and engraving angle of the adhesive applicator roll, a screen angle interference or moiré pattern could occur in the print. If an aggressive solvent is used in the adhesive, it could "bite" into the ink causing a moiré.



Printing plate showing moiré



The Engraved adhesive cylinder

OEC ADOPTS LEAN MANUFACTURING

Lean Manufacturing has taken hold at OEC. Lean Manufacturing was first implemented as a system in 1950 by Taiichi Ohno, into what we know today as the Toyota Production System (TPS). Many of the individual components of Lean can be traced as far back as the 1800's.

OEC was introduced to Lean Manufacturing in 2009 by Jeffrey Hemme our Corporate Director of Operations. OEC has been working with employees to implement Lean's waste-eliminating procedures throughout all of our manufacturing facilities. Tracking methods have shown that as a result, OEC has significantly reduced remakes, errors, and improved cycle time which in turn is a differentiator for us and makes OEC more competitive. Our objective is to position OEC as the prepress company that all customers go to for consistently excellent quality, service, innovation, and exceptional value.

Simply put, Lean Manufacturing is a war on waste. Eight forms of waste are identified and targeted for elimination through process improvement. They are:

- * Defects
- * Over production
- * Waiting
- * Underutilized people
- * Transportation
- * Inventory-excess
- * Unnecessary motion
- * Extra processing/inspections

Where waste or deficiencies are identified, the employees work to develop procedures to eliminate the waste, streamline the process, and build in quality. Lean has become an integral part of OEC's green initiative, OEC-ECO.

The five stages of Lean as we know them can be summarized as:

- 1) Value - what customers are willing to pay for
- 2) Value Stream - the steps that deliver value
- 3) Flow - organizing the value stream to be continuous
- 4) Pull - responding to downstream customer demands
- 5) Perfection - relentless continuous improvement

Lean is a journey that changes the culture of an organization and those culture changes occur slowly. OEC has made significant progress in our efforts. Within the next 30 days, every employee of OEC Graphics will be trained on the process of Lean, with the goal of empowering our employees to bring greater value to our customers.

OEC is excited about our war on waste and will keep you updated on our progress!

OEC INSTALLS FIRST ESKO IN-THE-ROUND LASER IN US

OECC is proud to announce that in January of 2010, we installed Esko's new ITR Laser. The equipment itself proved to be an easy start-up with no significant kinks that had to be worked out. Although it is capable of imaging both sleeves and flat plates, OEC plans to use it to keep up with our Seamex® sleeve demand. This specific unit can image sleeves up to 72".

The Esko ITR Laser operates at faster speeds, increasing OEC throughput, while improving the quality with their HD technology. (see accompanying article) OEC is excited to now offer Seamex and Seamex2 sleeves in HD. This new equipment addition counts as OEC's 10th laser. We currently operate and manage five throughout our manufacturing facilities and five within customer facilities.

WALMART SUSTAIN continued

After the event, a few select vendors were invited to present case studies of how their products are beneficial to the environment. Brad Vette, OEC's Corporate Managing Director, was invited to participate in this roundtable forum with Walmart as they discussed ways to improve packaging. Vette adds OEC was pleased to have been asked to share our OEC ECO sustainability packaging strategies with this outstanding group of companies. We look forward to becoming more involved in the process of driving organizations towards sustainability initiatives and as a result, profitability.

To learn more about how OEC ECO solutions can help you and your customers, please contact us at 866-371-4047, via email at info@oececosolutions.com or visit our website at oececosolutions.com.



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OEC A BIG PARTICIPANT IN 2010 FFTA ANNUAL FORUM & INFO*FLEX



OEC is ready to make a big impact at the FFTA show taking place in Las Vegas, May 2-5. Jeff Hemme, OEC's Corporate Director of Operations, will be kicking off the Prepress conference session with his presentation on "Applying e-LEAN Efficiency to Your Digital Graphics Workflow". This session will focus on finding out how leading prepress companies are applying the new e-LEAN principles to increase efficiency, improve quality, reduce turnaround time and improve the profitability of their prepress operations.

OEC is also gearing up for a fresh roll-out of our OEC-ECO™ solutions product line at INFO*FLEX on May 3 and 4th. Our

focus will be to build awareness of OEC's exclusive products that improve quality and reduce cost while meeting the demands of end-users who are driving sustainability initiatives into the packaging market. If you won't be attending INFO*FLEX, you can learn more about OEC ECO at our website, oececosolutions.com or by calling Brad Vette at 920.420.2614.

