**Ask the Technical Experts!**

*One of the benefits of membership is the technical expertise provided by Printing Industries of America. Our technical experts from the Center for Technology and Research discuss common production problems and issues. The Center for Technology and Research helps members with environmental, health, and safety concerns; consulting and on-site technical assistance; Technical Association of the Graphic Arts; technology training; and simulators.*

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Q: I received some logo artwork from a client in SVG file format. What is an SVG file?

A: The Scalable Vector Graphics (SVG) file format has been around since 2001, but is rarely seen by printers, mainly because it's a web-based file. SVG files are basically Cascading Style Sheet (CSS) code that illustrates vector files in a browser. They're used by web designers frequently because of their small file size and high-quality for vector graphics. If you come across one as a printer, it's recommended you contact the client and request new artwork. However, if that's not possible, it's as simple as opening the file in Illustrator and saving an EPS file. You will need to confirm and adjust colors with the client because SVG files convert all colors to RGB.

Q. We are spending too much time to stop and clean a stubborn buildup of ink and glaze on the impression cylinders. How can we reduce this downtime?

A. The ink and glaze buildup is ink/varnish, fountain solution gum, and even spray powder. If you run the same sheet size you can try this quick fix. Cut the blanket packing size to just smaller than the sheet size. The blanket outside of the packing will not contact the impression cylinder and transfer ink and fountain solution. Cutting the packing short can leave a score ridge in the blanket from the edge of the packing that would show up in the print if a larger sheet size is run on the same blanket. Do not use this shortcut if you are having emulsification problems or printing on a non-porous substrate such as plastic. Since this buildup is difficult to clean, use a mixture of water and solvent, soak the glaze, and allow the mixture to soften the glaze before scrubbing the cylinder.

Q. What requirements exist for storage racks?

A. OSHA does not have a specific standard, but will use the American National Standard Institute ANSI MH 16.1-2012 Specification for the Design, Testing, and Utilization of Industrial Steel Storage Racks to evaluate racking systems. It requires that all columns be mounted to the

floor per the manufacturer's instructions and that all racking be in proper alignment, plum, and level. Load limits should also be posted on each section of the storage racks to denote the weight capacity. The storage racks and their contents must maintain an 18" clearance from any fire sprinkler.

**Printing Industries Resources:**
Offering unbiased and confidential results, Printing Industries of America provides a range of testing and laboratory services to help solve printing-related problems. For more information, please contact Jim Workman at 800-910-4283, ext. 710 (direct 412-259-1710), visit www.printing.org/labservices or email labservices@printing.org or jworkman@printing.org.