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Plate Making Technical Manual

 Plate Making Process

 Trouble shooting Guide

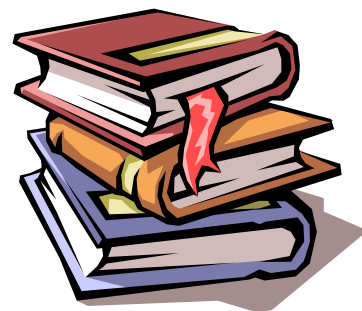
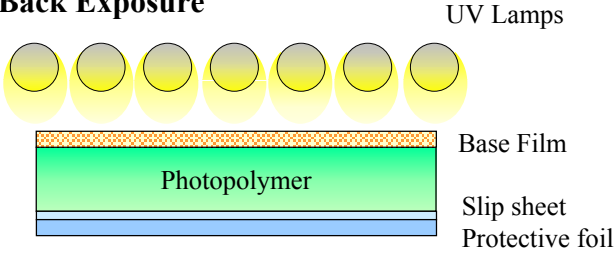
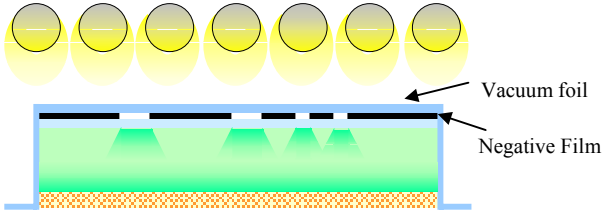
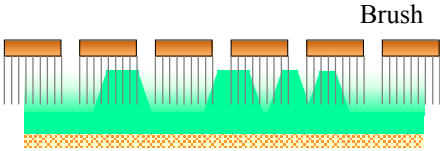
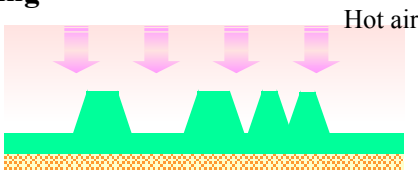
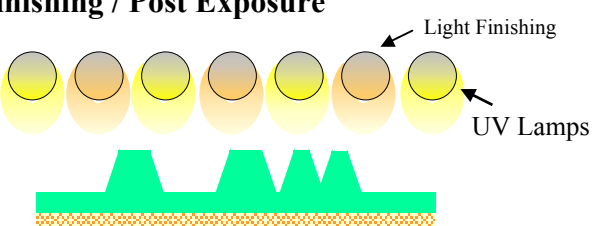




Plate Making Process

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<p>1. Back Exposure</p>  <p>UV Lamps</p> <p>Base Film</p> <p>Photopolymer</p> <p>Slip sheet</p> <p>Protective foil</p>	<p>Back expose plate to establish the floor. UV lamps should be in the range 300~400nm.</p>
<p>2. Main Exposure</p>  <p>Vacuum foil</p> <p>Negative Film</p>	<p>Remove protective foil and place a mat negative film on the plate surface. Next, switch on the vacuum and remove all air. Proceed with main exposure.</p>
<p>3. Wash-out</p>  <p>Brush</p>	<p>Developer temperature should be 20 to 25°C (68 to 77° F).</p>
<p>4. Drying</p>  <p>Hot air</p>	<p>Drying temperature should be 50 to 55°C (122 to 131° F).</p>
<p>5. Finishing / Post Exposure</p>  <p>Light Finishing</p> <p>UV Lamps</p>	<p>Light Finishing should be in the range 200~300nm.</p>



Troubleshooting Guide

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Problem	Cause	Solution
Shallow relief	Excessive back exposure Washout time too short Washout solution saturated Washout solution too weak Temperature too cool	Reduce back exposure Extend wash time Replace with new solution Verify specific gravity Temp should be 20-25°C (68-77° F)
Reverses filled in	Excessive main exposure Poor contact negative film and plate Poor copy in negative film Low negative film density	Reduce main exposure Negative film and plate should be free of air Re-make negative film D-Max should be Increased to 3.8-4.0
Wavy lines	Main exposure too low Excessive relief Poor copy in negative film Negative film over exposed or D-Min too high Washout time too long Washout solution too weak Washout temperature too cool Drying time too short Excessive brush pressure	Increase main exposure Increase back exposure Re-make negative film D-Min of negative film should be 0.05 Reduce washout time Replace with new solution Increase temperature to 20-25°C (68-77° F) Extend drying time Reduce brush pressure
Fine copy missing	Main exposure too low Excessive relief Poor copy in negative film Washout time too long Washout solution too weak Washout temperature too cool Drying time too short	Increase main exposure Increase back exposure Re-make negative film Reduce washout time Replace with new solution Increase temperature to 20-25°C (68-77° F) Extend drying time
Chipping	Main exposure too low Washout time too long Washout solution too weak Excessive brush pressure Brush too stiff	Increase main exposure Reduce washout time Replace with new solution Reduce brush pressure Replace with softer brush
Cupping	Drying time too long Drying temperature too high	Reduce drying time Reduce drying temperature to 45-55°C (113-131° F)



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Problem	Cause	Solution
Pinholes	Dirty negative film Dirty exposure vacuum foil Dust between exposure vacuum foil and negative film, or negative film and plate	Use clean negative film Use clean vacuum foil Use brush to remove static electricity
Plate too thick	Drying time too short	Extend drying time
Resin on face	Face not rinsed properly	Rinse plate after washout and clean prior to finishing
Rough background	Unexposed resin Washout time too short Washout solution too weak Washout temperature too low Back exposure too low Excessive brush pressure Brush too stiff	Extend washout time Replace with new solution Increase temperature to 20- 25 °C (68-77° F) Increase back exposure Reduce brush pressure Replace with softer brush
Sticky plate	Plate finishing time too short Wrong chemical solution	Increase finishing time Correct solution
Improper plate hardness	Drying time too short Post exposure too short	Extend drying time Increase post exposure time

