

# **BLANK PAGE**



## Indian Standard

## **CLASSIFICATION OF PRINTING MACHINES**

- 1. Scope This standard evolves a rational method in classification of various types of printing machines.
- 2. Methodology The classification is based on the basic principles of transfer of inked image from the forme to the substrate.
- 2.1 The following are the basic principles.
- **2.1.1** Relief-printing The printing surface is raised at a uniform level in reversed image at a height of 2:33 mm to transfer the ink directly to the substrate under uniform pressure. This process is known as letterpress printing.
- 2.1.2 Planographic printing The printing and non-printing surfaces are in the same height or level and the inked image are transferred on the substrate. The principle of this process is based on ink-water repulsion. The images are transferred to blanket from the plate and printed on the substrate. This printing process is known as offset or lithographic printing.
- 2.1.3 Intaglio printing The printing surface is recessed from the non-image area and the ink fills up on the recessed portion and is wiped clean by a doctor blade. The paper sucks the ink to give impression directly. This process is known as intaglio or gravure printing.
- 2.1.4 Silk screen printing The image area is made into a stencil by opaquing on non-image areas of a piece of silk cloth stitched on a frame. The lnk filled on the frame is transferred through the screen and passes-on to the substrate hold next to the screen on the other side. This process is known as silk screen printing.
- 3. Printing Machines Based on Letterpress
- 3.1 Classifications Based on Construction and Mechanism
  - 3.1.1 Platen printing machine
    - a) Hand-fed platen, and
    - b) Auto platen.
  - 3.1.2 Flat bed cylinder
    - a) Stop cylinder,
    - b) Single revolution cylinder,
    - c) Oscillating cylinder, and
    - d) Two-revolution cylinder.
- 3.2 Classifications Based on Paper Used
  - 3.2.1 Sheetfed letterpress machine
    - a) Flat bed cylinder, and
    - b) Rotary letterpress.
  - 3.2.2 Web-fed letterpress machine Rotary letterpress.
- 3.3 Classifications Based on Number of Colours
  - 3.3.1 Single colour
    - a) Flat bed cylinder, and
    - b) Rotary web.

Adopted 18 August 1987

© January 1988, BIS

Gr 2

#### IS: 12136 - 1987

- 3.3.2 Multi-colour
  - a) Flat bed cylinder, and
  - b) Rotary web.
- 3.3.3 Multi-reel
  - a) Multi-unit,
  - b) Rotary web, and
  - c) Rotary satelite.
- 3.4 Classifications Based on End-Product
  - 3.4.1 Fixed size cut-off (reel to sheet) Rotary web.
  - 3.4.2 Variable size cut-off Rotary web.
  - 3.4.3 Reel-to-reel Rotary web.
  - 3.4.4 Reel-to-fold Rotary web:
    - a) Broad sheet,
    - b) Tabloid,
    - c) Quarter fold, and
    - d) Double parallel.
- 4. Flexographic Printing Machine The principle of printing is more or less same as of letterpress printing. The image carrying printing plates are made of soft or resilient material and a water-based ink is directly applied to the plate and the image is transferred to the paper directly.
- 5. Planographic Printing Machine
- 5.1 Classifications Based on Construction and Mechanism
  - 5.1.1 Lithographic printing machine Direct litho.
  - 5.1.2 Flat bed cylinder offset
  - 5.1.3 Rotary cylinder offset
    - a) Conventional three or four cylinders, and
    - b) Satelite.
- 5.2 Classifications Based on Number of Colours
  - 5.2.1 Single colour
    - a) Flat bed cylinder, and
    - b) Conventional rotary (three cylinders in one unit).
  - 5.2.2 Multi-colour
    - a) Rotary,
    - b) Flat bed cylinder (two colours in one unit with five cylinders),
    - c) Rotary offset in line construction (three or four cylinders in one unit), and
    - d) Rotary satelite construction (three or four colours in one unit with single impression cylinder).
- 5.3 Classifications Based on Paper Feeding
  - 5.3.1 Sheetfed
    - a) Flat bed cylinder offset, and
    - b) Rotary offset.
  - 5.3.2 Web fed
    - a) Unit system consisting of three cylinders, and
    - b) Perfecting by four cylinders blanket to blanket.

IS: 12136 - 1987

## 5.4 Classifications Based on Configuration of Printing Press

- 5.4.1 Web printing machine Three- or four-cylinders printing machine.
- 5.4.2 'U' or 'N' printing unit Four-cylinders.
- 5.4.3 'Y' printing unit Six-cylinders.
- **5.4.4** Satelite printing unit Seven-cylinders.
- 5.4.5 Satelite printing unit Nine-cylinders.

#### 6. Other Type of Printing Machines

- a) Thermographic printing machine Letterpress,
- b) Laser printing machine,
- c) Collo-type printing machine, and
- d) Hollographic printing machine.

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

This standard makes an attempt to lay down the broad classification of printing machinery. While preparing the standard, assistance has been derived from Italian National Standard, UM 6435-1969 'Classification of printing machines'.