First edition
2005-03-01

Graphic technology — Colour and transparency of printing ink sets for four-colour printing —

Part 5: Flexographic printing

Technologie graphique — Couleur et transparence des gammes d'encre d'impression en quadrichromie —

Partie 5: Impression flexographique

Reference number
ISO 2846-5:2005(E)

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ISO copyright office
Case postale 56 • CH-1211 Geneva 20
Tel. + 41 22 749 01 11
Fax + 41 22 749 09 47
E-mail copyright@iso.org
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Published in Switzerland

Contents

Page

Foreword ... iv

Introduction ... v

1 **Scope** ... 1

2 **Normative references** ... 1

3 **Terms and definitions** ... 2

4 **Requirements** ... 2
4.1 **General** ... 2
4.2 **Colorimetric values** ... 2
4.3 **Transparency characteristics** ... 3

5 **Test methods** ... 3
5.1 **Principle** ... 3
5.2 **Test print preparation** ... 4

Annex A (informative) **Spectral data** ... 5

Annex B (informative) **Colorimetric values for non-normative conditions** ... 8

Annex C (informative) **Detailed explanation of the test method, including examples** ... 9

Annex D (normative) **Reference substrate** ... 12

Bibliography ... 13

Foreword

ISO (the International Organization for Standardization) is a worldwide federation of national standards bodies (ISO member bodies). The work of preparing International Standards is normally carried out through ISO technical committees. Each member body interested in a subject for which a technical committee has been established has the right to be represented on that committee. International organizations, governmental and non-governmental, in liaison with ISO, also take part in the work. ISO collaborates closely with the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) on all matters of electrotechnical standardization.

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ISO 2846-5 was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 130, *Graphic technology*.

ISO 2846 consists of the following parts, under the general title *Graphic technology — Colour and transparency of printing ink sets for four-colour printing*:

— *Part 1: Sheet-fed and heat-set web offset lithographic printing*

— *Part 2: Coldset offset lithographic printing*

— *Part 3: Publication gravure printing*

— *Part 4: Screen printing*

— *Part 5: Flexographic printing*

Introduction

The demand for the flexographic printing process to become more consistent and predictable has required standardization of the process to ensure that the various parties involved in flexographic printing production are able to control their part of the process in a meaningful way. An essential component in this process is the specification of the colorimetric and transparency characteristics of the ink set.

The purpose of this part of ISO 2846 is to define the colorimetric and transparency characteristics of standard sets of flexographic process inks. Standard inks allow flexographic printers to obtain different sets of inks which will all produce a similar colour when printed on the same substrate (paper, board, plastic, etc.). So, by meeting the requirements of this part of ISO 2846 a standard set of inks can be supplied by any ink manufacturer to any printer, who can then supply prints to a print buyer confident that the colour of the work produced will be that required. In addition, this part of ISO 2846 will allow colour separations for flexographic printing to be produced to known colour standards.

The colorimetric characteristics specified may only be obtained when the inks are printed on the specified reference substrate. However, two inks that are similar in colorimetric characteristics and transparency, according to this part of ISO 2846, will normally ensure similarity between the results obtained when both inks are printed on another substrate.