

Describe the principles involved in the production of image carriers

The aim when creating image carriers is to faithfully reproduce lines, dots of photographs and type, which when printed will achieve the desired appearance.

Systems available for the production of image carriers:

- (a) Automatic surface preparation systems
- (b) Manual surface preparation systems

Range of image carrier systems

- (a) Lithographic plate making
- (b) Photogravure cylinder preparation
- (c) Screen process stencils
- (d) Digital file output

Factors to be considered when selecting image carriers:

- (a) Shelf life of the image carrier
- (b) Production time to produce the image carrier
- (c) Image resolution requirements

Image resolution considerations:

- (a) Screen ruling and the thinnest line to be reproduced
- (b) Capability of the image carrier

Equipment commonly used to verify that finished carriers are fit for purpose:

- (a) Visual inspection: dot glass, control strip, etc.
- (b) Measurement: dot meter