



Systems ►► Sheetfed Offset

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Böttcher
Systems

Printing with UV inks

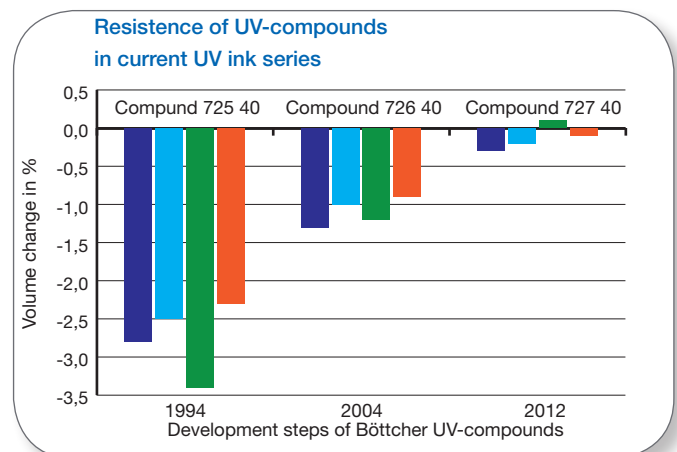
in sheetfed offset New Compound Stabilo-UV

The proportion of print products produced with UV curing ink is steadily increasing. Particularly in packaging production, the wide range of coating and finishing options UV offers supports product enhancement. Special gloss effects can be achieved through the use of selected coating materials, and the ability to print on non-absorbent substrates, such as foils and plastic cards, opens up a broad spectrum of printing options.

Process technology in UV sheetfed offset has improved continuously in recent years. Continual advances have been made in the development of both presses and consumables, including printing inks. Rollers for UV printing have been modified to keep pace with the increasingly demanding dynamic requirements of modern presses, while their chemical composition has also been adapted to constantly changing ink systems.

The new **Stabilo-UV 727 40** compound exhibits significantly improved chemical resistance to current UV inks (see graph) compared to its predecessor, compound 726 40. Particularly marked improvements in chemical resistance have been achieved in inks for printing on plastic foil, which are regarded as especially aggressive in terms of their chemical interaction with printing rollers. That contributes to a more stable printing process and longer roller life.

Böttcher conducts compatibility tests with all printing inks currently available in the market on its entire existing

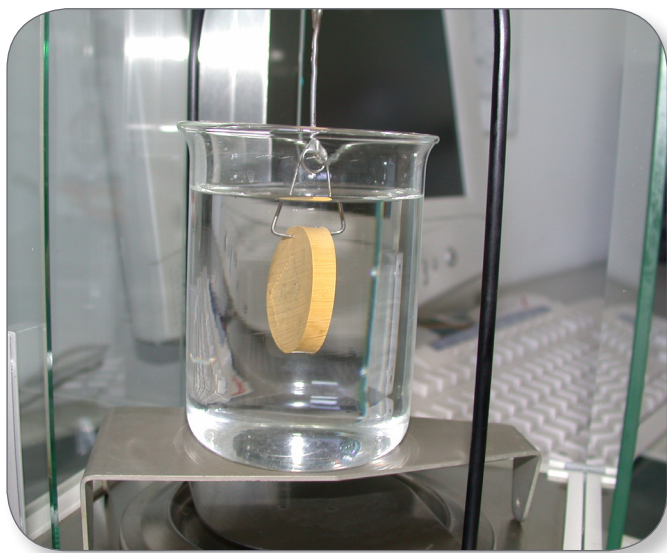


range of compounds. This is done by placing samples with defined geometry in contact with a given ink for a specified period of time in a DIN test. The volume and weight of the sample are measured before and after the test. Changes in these values during the period in which the sample is in contact with the medium provide valuable information about the behavior of the rubber compound during press operation.

Successful tests in label printing applications, which pose especially demanding requirements for UV roller compounds, were followed by further tests in other areas of UV packaging and commercial printing. In terms of print performance, the behavior of this compound is identical to that of 726 40, which has been used with success for many years and is the OEM compound of choice for



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nearly all of the leading offset press manufacturers. Among other advantages, the new compound offers improved chemical resistance, which results in better dimensional stability and longer service life.

The new UV compound 727 40 at a glance

- Improved chemical resistance to all currently available UV ink series
- Increased dimensional stability
- Less adjustment required
- Stable printing process
- Longer service life

Washes for UV printing

The interaction of the different materials on press determine the life condition and performance of rollers and printing blankets. Aggressive or unsuitable washes can cause premature and irreparable damage. Only washes compatible with rollers and printing blankets are completely swell-resistant and thus guarantee trouble-free operations. In addition, we adjust our products to meet the specific requirements of press manufacturers.

With the new **Böttcherin Offset UV XL** Böttcher has developed a UV wash that combines optimum washing performance with maximum protection of the roller covering. With a flash point of C 83 °, the product is safe, effective and cost-efficient. Compatibility with (unbaked) plates is further improved in comparison with the previous generation of UV washes, while the product's lower viscosity enhances both its cleaning power and its performance in automatic roller and blanket washing units.

Böttcherin Offset UV XL

- enhanced washing power
- improved compatibility with unbaked plates
- improved draining and doctoring behaviour

In addition to the new product **Böttcherin Offset UV XL**, the proven **Böttcherin UV-60 S** is still available. This wash is one of the few products currently available in the market which meets the extremely demanding requirements for material compatibility with presses manufactured by KBA-Planeta.

Fountain solution additives

UV printing also poses special requirements for fountain solution additives due to the composition of UV inks and the various types of printing substrates, many of which are non-absorbent.

Böttcher offers three products that meet these stringent requirements: **BöttcherFount S-3007** for low-alcohol/alcohol-free printing and **BöttcherFount S-3010+** for alcohol concentrations of 5-8%. **Vita Fount Gold** was specially developed for printing with metallic inks.

All fountain solution additives are corrosion-inhibited and have been approved by press manufacturers. Their distinctive characteristics include a highly stable ink-water balance, rapid wetting and stable production runs. Calcium deposits of the kind that form on inking rollers run with UV and hybrid inks are almost entirely eliminated.

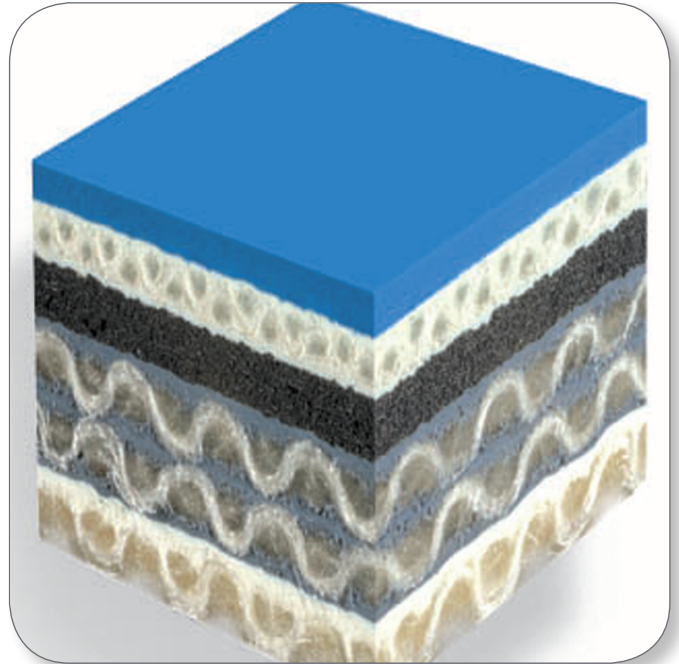
Roller cleaning / Roller maintenance

We recommend **BöttcherPro Calciumfix** and **Böttcherin-Pro AR** for use in removing deposits from roller surfaces. Both of these products are used in the press and washed off with water after a brief soaking period.



BöttcherTop 4800 Blanket for UV

Printing blankets play a crucial role in the printing process. Blankets are expected to meet especially demanding requirements in UV printing applications, in which films and other non-absorbent substrates are often printed. In addition to very strong chemical resistance to UV inks and washes, strong emphasis is also placed, as always, on superior-quality color and dot reproduction, a good dampening system and outstanding quick-release behavior.



With the **BöttcherTop 4800**, Böttcher offers a compressible UV blanket with a microground EPDM top layer which combines the characteristics listed above. **BöttcherTop 4800** is designed for use in a wide range of applications, from UV sheetfed offset to narrow-web presses of the kind used especially in UV label printing.