

3-2 Unintended Ink After Press Idle Time

3-2-1 Uncapped Printheads Contact Idle Paper

Symptoms and Possible Cause:

Large drops of ink appear throughout the media after printing has finished or press has been idle. These drops or streaks may coincide with printhead arrangement or may appear to be randomly distributed. The media may have contacted uncapped printheads during idle time. Improper webbing, windings, tensioning, or a web break may have caused the media to come into this contact. Also, uncapped printheads may have drooled ink onto the media. In case of a large patch of ink, a printhead may have lost back pressure and spilt a large amount of ink.

Images:



Figure 3-2-1: Ink drops or drool on page during idle time

Actions:

- Return all printheads to the capped position. Jog media out of web press and onto rewinder roll.
- Inspect print zone for any ink accumulation. Clean as required.



WARNING: Always return printheads to the capped position when not printing, except for cleaning or maintenance. Printheads should not remain uncapped for more than 30 minutes when not printing, even during cleaning and maintenance.

- Before resuming printing, check for any improper tensioning, miswebbing, or web breaks which may have caused the media to contact the uncapped printheads. Address any existing issues.



WARNING: Be sure to turn off dryers before releasing tension from the press to avoid paper burning inside the dryers.

3-2-2 Ink Accumulation on Aerosol Ducts

Symptoms and Possible Causes:

Drips of ink appear on the printed output after press has been idle. These drips or streaks are large and irregular. The drip or streak does *not* necessarily coincide with poor nozzle health in the same area. Buildup of ink aerosol in the aerosol ducts and other surfaces in the print zone may have dripped onto or otherwise made contact with the media during idle time. Improper webbing, windings, or tensioning may have caused media to contact ink built up on aerosol ducts.