Syracuse University Environmental Health and Safety Services



Air Emission Control for Printing Operations Guidance Document

This guidance document provides information for graphic art printing facilities to aid them in controlling associated air emissions in compliance with state and federal air pollution control regulations. NYS Department of Environmental Conservation regulations for the Prevention and Control of Air Contamination and Pollution in Graphic Arts (6 NYCRR Part 234) outline specific requirements for graphic arts facilities to limit volatile organic compound (VOC) emissions from printing operations. These regulations are specific to facilities which operate rotogravure, offset lithographic or screen printing processes.

Syracuse University's Printing Plant and any other applicable printing operations at the University must ensure compliance with these regulations. The following is a summary of the compliance requirements that must be met by the departments responsible for the operation of printing presses:

- Provide EHSS with a list of all VOC containing materials used in association with the presses and update EHSS as changes occur (i.e. new products or no longer used products). VOC containing materials include inks, fountain solutions, clean up solvents, blanket washes, and adhesives.
- Maintain purchase records for VOC containing materials used in association with the presses for a period of 5
 years and submit these records annually to EHSS.
- **Maintain a Safety Data Sheet (SDS)** for each VOC containing material and provide a copy of any new SDS to EHSS.
- Store inks and solvents in closed containers including waste materials (i.e. rags, disposed of inks).
- Ensure that the **VOC content is below 10%** for any fountain solution used.
- **Notify EHSS prior to the installation** of any new printing press or any significant modification to a current press or related operation that would affect (increase or decrease) the potential VOC emissions.
- **Notify EHSS of any significant changes** in ink or solvent usage including the use of a new ink manufacturer, a new solvent, or a significant increase/decrease in the amount of ink or solvent used.

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