

GUIDE

MANUAL OR AUTOMATED PLATE CLEANING?

Which is the best method to clean plates?

TWO TYPES OF CLEANING...

This guide focus on **two different ways** of cleaning your delicate flexo printing plates:

MANUAL
cleaning by hand

AUTOMATED
cleaning systems

Both ways are well-known in the industry, but which method is the best and most cost-efficient for you and your needs?

Cleaning plates properly and in a gentle and safe way is essential. Without a clean plate you won't receive a proper print quality and with a broken plate due to improper cleaning you will have quality issues with your print.

In the following pages you will find the questions you as a converter need to ask yourself when considering the best cleaning method for your business.

The guide will help you answer these questions:

What are the pros and cons of each method?

3

When should I consider changing from manual to automated cleaning?

4

What are my specific needs?

5

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PROS

- ⦿ Effective and constant cleaning flow
- ⦿ Limited manpower needed
- ⦿ Effective cleaning of all types of inks
- ⦿ Ensures high-quality cleaning of all plate's surfaces

AUTOMATED CLEANING

CONS

- ⦿ Larger start-up investment
- ⦿ Requires space
- ⦿ System requires maintenance

MANUAL VS. AUTOMATED PLATE CLEANING

PROS

- ⦿ Low or no start-up investment
- ⦿ Requires less space
- ⦿ Well-known method

MANUAL CLEANING

CONS

- ⦿ Inconsistent cleaning quality
- ⦿ Risk of damaging plates
- ⦿ Time consuming
- ⦿ Downtime on press due to unclean or damaged plates

AUTOMATE YOUR WORKFLOW

When should you consider going from manual to automated cleaning of your plates?

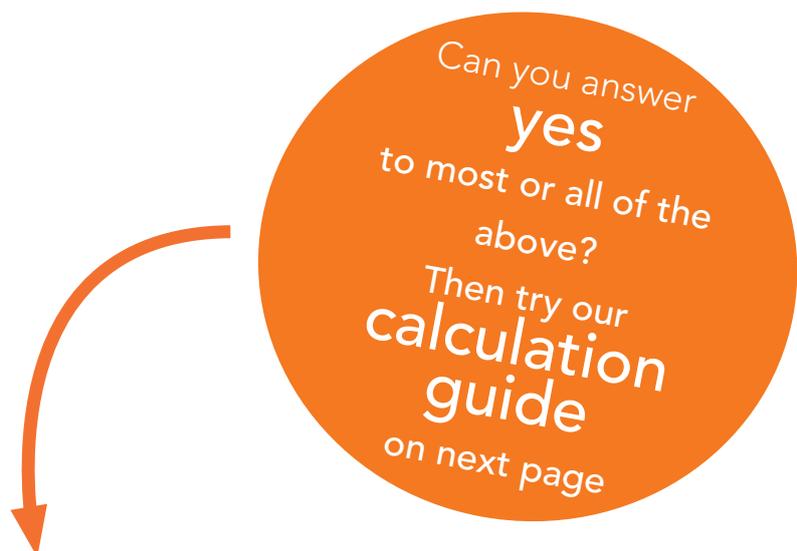
As a converter, you need to consider when a automated solution could be the right choice for your printing business by asking yourself **a few questions:**

Do I have a high number of damaged plates?

Do I experience downtime on press due to damaged and/or unclean plates?

Do I sometimes need to start over with a new job due to broken or unclean plate?

Would you prefer that your printers focus on printing and not cleaning?



DO THE CALCULATION

Damaged and/or unclean plates are often a critical cost in the business - but have you ever done the actual calculation?

Insert your numbers in the **Y & X sentences** below and get the actual cost. This way you know what an automated cleaning system can **save you**.

Y	*	X	=	(Y*X)
Number of damaged plates to replace per year	*	Average cost per new plate	=	Annual cost of damaged plates
Number of hours of downtime on your press per year due to broken/unclean plates	*	Hourly cost of printing press not running	=	Annual cost of downtime due to broken/unclean plates
How many print jobs per year have been delayed due to broken/unclean plates?	*	Cost per delayed job	=	Annual cost of jobs started over due to broken/unclean plates
Number of printing jobs per year you have stopped due to bad quality derived from damaged/unclean plates	*	Average cost of wasted substrate & ink per quality stopped job	=	Annual cost of jobs due to bad quality derived from broken/unclean plates
				TOTAL annual cost

**CLEAN
IS CLEAN**
YOU DECIDE HOW!

However, we are always ready to
help and guide you to the right solution!

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