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Some Key Things You Should Know About Offset Printing

Printing service is used by most businesses for varied purposes such as marketing and intra-company communications. Hence, it is good to have some basic knowledge of how printing works, especially offset printing, which is one of the most widely used printing techniques.

The customers and the printers like offset printing due to its cost effectiveness for the production of large number of prints. That is why for bulk orders any good printing company would advise you to opt for offset printing.

This printing technology uses oil-based ink, which is not soluble in water. The offset printing gets its name from the fact that the designs are transferred indirectly from the plates to the paper by use of rubber blankets as the agents.

First step is to prepare the images. Previously the images were prepared by creating film negatives and were then transmitted to printing plates made of aluminum. In the current times, the printers can make use of the image setting system for making the plates directly. After this, the plate is stuck to a cylinder with the right side facing upwards. Then the water and ink are dispersed on the image plates, in that order. The ink is poured over the image and to prevent it from overflowing, a thin layer of water is spread over the remaining part of the plate.

Next, the image is turned around when it is put on to a rubber blanket which is stuck to another cylinder. After that, sheets of paper of desired proportions are put together and the rubber blankets transmit the image to the sheets on a third cylinder, where it comes out as the right side.

The job of printing is finished by the printing company by consolidating the printed sheets using staples or glue or in any other way as per the needs of the client.

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