

PRINTING INDUSTRY

APPLICATION SHEET

Dry ice blasting is used in the **printing industry** for:

- Removal of ink and grease build-ups
- Front and back cylinders
- Press interiors
- Belt motors
- Exhaust fans
- Rollers
- Bearings
- Ink fountains
- Bindery machines
- Glue stations
- Litho ovens
- Product and material storage areas

Advantages include:

- The biggest advantage is sheer speed of cleaning
- Reduced downtime means greater productivity
- A superior clean, dry ice blast cleaning reaches area that are not accessible to hand cleaning
- Dry ice blast cleaning is non-abrasive
- Reduced chemical usage (reduced V.O.C.)
- Cleaning can be completed online with minimal disassembly
- No additional contaminants are added to the waste stream

When cleaning a printing press the dry ice blast cleaning process successfully removes contaminants such as dried ink, coatings, paper dust, and spray powder that cause wear and tear on moving parts. The process also allows for reduced maintenance time and faster make readies, changes, and roller settings. Heavy ink and oil deposits on deck plates create a safety hazard, using the dry ice blasting process eliminates that hazard. A clean printing press not only creates a showpiece for customers, it greatly increases the value of any press being sold or traded in.

The general rules when cleaning a press with the dry ice blasting process are minimal disassembly and “tenting”. Minimal disassembly means removing some of the easier components; such as rubber rollers, pans and guards; which result in a much more thorough clean. “Tenting” refers to a procedure that uses plastic sheets to confine the blast area. The result of this is to limit the area exposed to flying debris, making final clean-up much easier.