



Screen Printers Resource
EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES

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MARCH 2013
NEWSLETTER



Don't forget to set the clocks forward on Sunday March 10

What's happening this month?

March 10

Daylight Savings Time

March 17

St. Patrick's Day

March 20

Spring Time

March 31

Easter Sunday

MARCH MADNESS by Mike Grey

It's that time again. March is here and the madness begins. I will bet many of you think I am speaking of Basketball. While this is an important subject to many, what I am actually referring to is the beginning of the busy production cycle. Orders will begin to pour in and many shops will get so busy that they will go into panic mode.

This is the time to make a checklist and check it twice. Is maintenance taken care of? Did everyone get a chance to check their presses, dryers, exposure units? Compressor?

I have been in hundreds of shops and it seems that often

all or part of these are overlooked. Imagine driving on the freeway at 100 mph with out enough oil in the engine.

Did everyone clean out the build up in the dryer? This not only makes it more efficient to operate but lessens the chance for a fire. I have seen many dryer fires in my day and it is not a pretty site.

As business increases it seems that there is never enough time in the week to do these tasks. Printing equipment and accessories are just like an automobile. They need constant upkeep and preventative maintenance.

Many of you like myself, keep our cars and trucks clean and waxed religiously. Mine is usually spotless. It is just good business to keep the things that make us money in tune and clean.

This year is looking very promising and better than the last. I know many of you will be going 100 mph+ everyday on press. Hopefully your equipment will pay you back for such great care.

Check the safety cords, kick the tires and Good Luck!!



M&R Parts call (888)435-2468

Tech Tip It is necessary to change the lamp or bulbs in your exposure unit at least once a year and in some cases every 6 months. Constant use weakens the amount of ultra-violet light that is needed to expose most emulsions and films. This not only makes for a better and consistent screen but increases productivity.

Say What?

The other day I was visiting a shop that I've been to a hundred times before ever since I started in this industry over 30 years ago. It was like going back in time thinking of the way we used to do things. Some of the techniques and methods used then are unheard of today. For instance "Rubylith". I mention that word and I get a funny look. (I can still cut good Ruby)

Back in the day screens were made of wood and stretched with rope or staples. That thought gets an even funnier look. I remember when micro-registration meant that you were good with a crescent wrench.

We used to bang on the inside of the screens to get them in registration. Some of you know exactly what I mean but nowadays most have no idea what I'm talking about.

I wonder in 20 years or so will the next generation know what Discharge or High Density ink is? Will they even be using any of the inks or equipment that are used today. For those of you that do remember I'm sure this brings back great memories or at least good stories to tell.

Anyway, here's to good ol' days to come!

