

# Opaque whites for sheetfed offset

## Range Overview

### Product features

- Opaque whites are used to cover backgrounds or as a component in colour mixing to achieve a covering effect.
- They are ready-to-print and their composition corresponds to the one of spot inks. Based on BIO-binders, they contain titanium dioxide instead of coloured pigments.
- Flint Group's opaque white range is designed to cater for a variety of needs, types of substrates and areas of application in sheetfed offset.
- Each base colour ink series is supplemented by a specific opaque white, which features the same printing properties as the base colour inks.
- All products of the opaque white portfolio offer a very good covering effect and good printability.

### Advantages of the opaque white range

- Ready-to-print.
- For single printing and as a component in colour mixing.
- Very good covering effect.
- Good printability.
- Range caters for a variety of areas of application and types of substrates.
- Optimally matched to Flint Group's base colour ink series'.



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## Printability

Opaque whites are based on titanium dioxide, which achieves a very high opacity, however they have a higher density compared to the coloured pigments contained in offset inks. The particles are larger and harder. To reach a sufficient opacity, the concentration of titanium dioxide in opaque whites is very high. This results in specific properties with regard to their printability. Behaviour on plates and blankets differs from standard offset inks and the wash cycles may be shorter.

At colour change to opaque white, care must be taken that all ink rollers are thoroughly cleaned.

Achievable ink film thicknesses in offset printing are approximately 2,0 – 2,5 g/m<sup>2</sup>. The covering effect can be increased by printing twice and thereby the impression becomes smoother. To achieve optimum results in covering of backgrounds, we recommend to print the opaque white over two printing units. The following coloured inks can be printed wet-on-wet or wet-on-dry, however better effects can be achieved with wet-on-dry. When printing wet-on-wet, in certain cases it is necessary to adapt the tack of the following inks by adding Printing oil L or Reduxpaste 4800 BIO.

It has to be considered, that due to the limited ink film thickness transferred in offset printing and despite the high concentration of the opaque white, not all coloured backgrounds can be covered. Also the characteristic of the substrate plays an important role. The rougher and more absorbing the background is, the more difficult it is to cover completely.

## Surface Finishing/ Fastness properties

As un-toned opaque whites don't contain pigments, no resistance requirements regarding subsequent surface finishing have to be considered.

Although the Novavit® OG 6994 BIO BOARD opaque white and Novaspot® 182 337 BIO opaque white for metallized paper are blue-toned, all required fastness properties for subsequent surface finishing are given.

## Special Hints

In ink ducts equipped with foil, the foil may wear through due to the properties of titanium dioxide. Therefore, the foil must be re-tensioned in time or exchanged in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.

## Exceptions

With the exception of Novasens® BCS PRIME opaque white all products of the opaque white range are not for use on food packaging without functional barrier.

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